The Pyongyang Times

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D.P.R.K. Govt. Political Programme Announced by

Comrade KIM IL SUNG Is Political Document of Great International Significance

TELEGRAMS

✦ Comrade Kim Il Sung, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and Premier of the Cabinet of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Comrade Choi Yong Kun, President of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly of the D.P.R.K., received a telegram from Comrade Alexander Dubcek, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, and Comrade Josef Lenart, Prime Minister of the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, in reply to the former's telegram of greetings sent on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the February Event in which the Czechoslovak people, under the leadership of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, smashed counter-revolutionary intrigues of the domestic reactionary forces in collusion with the U.S. imperialists.

✦ Premier Kim Il Sung of the D.P.R.K. Cabinet received a telegram of greetings from the Union of Workers of Mauritania.

The telegram said:

The national bureau of the Union of Workers of Mauritania extends, in the name of the Mauritanian working people, warm congratulations to Your Excellency on your reappointment as Premier of the Cabinet of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Warmly hailing the capture of the U.S. imperialist armed spy ship "Pueblo" by the Korean People's Army, the telegram strongly denounced the U.S. imperialists for their aggressive machinations against the D.P.R.K. and expressed militant solidarity with the Korean people.

Congolese [B] Daily Stresses

According to a report from Brazzaville, the Congolese (B) daily **Brazzaville Lowa** on January 15 warmly congratulated Comrade Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader of the 40 million Korean people, upon his reappointment as Premier of the Cabinet and carried the gist of the Political Programme of the D.P.R.K. Government "Let us embody more thoroughly the revolutionary spirit of independence, self-sustenance and self-defence in all fields of state activity" announced by him at the First Session of the Fourth Supreme People's Assembly.

Publishing the gist of the Political Programme, the daily stressed:

Premier Kim Il Sung has fought only for the freedom and happiness of the Korean people and the victory of the cause of socialism and communism for over 40 years since he began his revolutionary activity in his early age.

Premier Kim Il Sung who organized and waged the 15-year-long anti-Japanese armed struggle in the dark period of the Japanese imperialist rule beat Japanese imperialism and accomplished the cause of the restoration of the fatherland, breaking through difficult phases and standing at the van of the struggle. After the liberation he founded the Workers' Party of Korea and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and has led the Korean revolution along the most correct road, creatively applying Marxism-Leninism to the concrete realities of Korea from the consistent stand of *Juche* and independence.

It is thanks to the correct leadership of Premier Kim Il Sung that the Korean people could repulse the armed invasion of U.S. imperialism and attain such great victory and successes as we see today in socialist revolution.

Pakistani Paper Says

The Political Programme of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea announced by Comrade Kim Il Sung, one of the outstanding leaders of the international communist movement and working-class movement, is not only the brilliant torch brightly illumining the road of victory ahead of the entire Korean people and the banner of struggle for them but a guide to the peoples of all the fighting countries to the struggle for consolidating national independence against imperialism and building their countries into rich and powerful countries, independent in politics, self-sustenant in the economy and self-defensive in national defence and a priceless political document of great international significance we should deeply study and take as a paragon.

A recent issue of **Pakistani paper Reader** emphasized this, carrying a detailed gist of the Political Programme of the Government of the D.P.R.K. published by Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great Leader of the 40 million Korean people. The daily respectfully printed a portrait of Comrade Kim Il Sung on its front page.

Giving the gist of the Political Programme of the Government of the D.P.R.K., the paper said in the foreword: His Excellency Kim Il Sung, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Head of the Government of the D.P.R.K. and the great Leader of the 40 million Korean people, was reappointed as the Premier of the Cabinet with the absolute approval of the entire Korean people and a new Cabinet of the D.P.R.K. headed by him was formed at the First Session of the Fourth Supreme People's Assembly of the D.P.R.K. held in December 1967.

At the Session Premier Kim Il Sung announced the Political Programme of the D.P.R.K. Government "Let us embody more thoroughly the revolutionary spirit of independence, self-sustenance and self-defence in all fields of state activity."

The paper wrote:

The Ten-Point Political Programme put forth by Premier Kim Il Sung convincingly testifies to the correctness and great vitality of the ideas of *Juche* consistently upheld by the Workers' Party of Korea and shows the unshakable, revolutionary stand of *Juche* and unbending will of the Korean people to accomplish the Korean revolution with a sense of responsibility and fight to the end against the imperialists headed by U.S. imperialism.

The Political Programme also clarifies new tasks of struggle before the entire Korean people for bringing earlier the nationwide victory of the Korean revolution under the present complex internal and external situation, particularly under the circumstances in which the U.S. imperialists occupying the southern half of the country are intensifying aggressive machinations. Today the heroic Korean people, holding high the historic Political Programme of the Government of the Republic announced by Premier Kim Il Sung, are fighting to implement the Party's line of carrying on economic construction and defence upbuilding in parallel and putting greater spurs to the galloping Chollima, effecting a new revolutionary upswing.

The Korean people will surely win new victory in the struggle for socialist construction and for the independent unification of the fatherland.

First Quarterly Year Plan Fulfilled Ahead of Schedule

Our working people have brought about a great upsurge in production upholding the Party's new, revolutionary line on carrying on economic construction in parallel with defence upbuilding and the great Ten-Point Political Programme announced by Premier Kim Il Sung.

In particular, having accepted the teachings of Comrade Kim Il Sung given at the banquet in honour of the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Korean People's Army, they are raising high the flames of labour struggle and are fulfilling their first quarterly year plan ahead of schedule in the spirit of crushing the U.S. imperialists in view of the frantic manoeuvres for war provocations of U.S. imperialism.

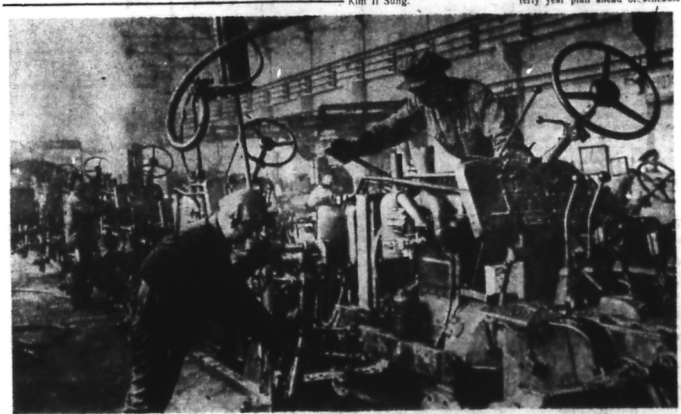
In an Ore Mine

The Red miners of the ore mine where Comrade Kim Gyu Won works have put spurs to the drive for increased production with the resolve to fulfil their assignments envisaged in the people's economic plan for this year ahead of the 20th anniversary of the founding of the D.P.R.K. and turn out by the year-end 1.5 times as much ore as the results of last year. They hit with credit the first quarterly year target for ore output by March 25.

The Jin Byong Mu-led Chollima platoon members who are indignant at the frenzied war machinations of U.S. imperialism perfectly introduced comprehensive mechanization in the cutting faces by pooling their collective wisdom and thus trebled the mineral output with 20 per cent less man-power and scored innovatory successes, topping the first quarterly year plan by the end of February and the first half year plan by March 25.

Meanwhile, the twice Chollima platoon members led by Ho Chun Soh overfulfilled the quarterly plan half a month ahead of the set time by raising five times the ore output per drill with the help of the automatic propeller of their own make and introducing heavy-duty tramcars to the cutting faces. They are now successfully carrying out their resolve to honour their yearly quotas by May Day.

(Continued on Page 8)



Workers of the Kiyang Tractor Plant are bringing about big innovations in the production of "Chollima" tractors, upholding the great Ten-Point Political Programme set forth by Comrade Premier

Photo by Rim Sun Jik

REVOLUTIONARY FAMILY OF COMRADE KIM IL SUNG AND HIS REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES IN HIS EARLY YEARS

Mrs. Kang Ban Sok

Mrs. KANG BAN SOK, Mother of Comrade KIM IL SUNG (1)

Mrs. Kang Ban Sok resisting the Japanese imperialist police

Mrs. Kang Ban Sok is the mother of Comrade Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader of the 40 million Korean people, peerless patriot, national hero, ever-victorious, iron-willed genius-commander and one of the outstanding leaders of the international communist and working-class movements.

Mrs Kang Ban Sok was not only a helper and close revolutionary comrade-in-arms to her husband Mr. Kim Hyong Jik, who had done all she could to assist him in his revolutionary activities for the restoration of the fatherland, but was also the mother who brought up Comrade Kim Il Sung into the great Leader of our people and a great woman revolutionary who personally organised and guided the struggle of the masses of women for the restoration of the fatherland and the emancipation of women.

Mrs. Kang Ban Sok was born as the second daughter of Mr. Kang Don Wuk on April 21, 1892 in Chilgol, Ha-ri, Ryongsan sub-county, Daedong County, South Pyongan Province.

Mr. Kang Don Wuk was an ardent patriot who fought for the independence of the fatherland, a pioneer who reared his children into fine anti-Japanese fighters and an energetic educationist who devoted himself to the education of the rising generation.

Mr. Kang Don Wuk, poor as his family was, set up the Changdok School in his home village of Chilgol and dedicated all his energies and wisdom to the education of the coming generations over a period of more than 30 years.

When the March 1st Popular Uprising broke out in 1919, Mr. Kang Don Wuk read out an independence declaration before the people in Kopyong sub-county, organised an anti-Japanese demonstration demanding independence and led its columns from Chilgol to Pyongyang.

The disciples of Mr. Kang Don Wuk erected a monument in memory of him in Chilgol, Mangyongdae, to transmit his exploits through generations. The monument has been preserved with great care up to this date.

Mr. Kang Jin Sok, the eldest brother of Mrs. Kang Ban Sok, was likewise an ardent anti-Japanese patriotic champion who, together with those who were engaged in the independence movement at home and abroad, fought for the restoration of the fatherland with arms in hand from early period until he was arrested by the Japanese imperialist police and eventually, to our great regret, passed away after more than 13 years of prison life. Mrs. Kang Ban Sok who grew up in such a family harboured intense hatred against Japanese imperialism and had distinguished disposition and qualities from her childhood.

It is said that Mrs. Kang Ban Sok, though she received no regular school education, was so clever that she outdid school-going people through self-study.

From her early years Mrs. Kang Ban Sok was industrious and exceptionally smart in all jobs. Mrs. Kang Ban Sok got on very well with relatives and neighbours and, in particular, she was an educationist who helped the poor, awakening their class consciousness and leading them along the right path.

One day Mrs. Kang Ban Sok happened to notice a next-door woman starching cotton yarn with her fretful baby on her back, bathed in perspiration, and lent a helping hand to her.

By the time, the little one, seeing a rich family's child eating a rice-cake, kept on crying out for it. The mother tried to soothe the crying baby, but in vain. Now she, beyond patience, lost her temper and was going to beat the baby.

At this moment Mrs. Kang Ban Sok stood in her way and told her with a painful feeling:

"Do you think the little one crying for food is to blame, aunt? How could the blame be laid on the child who is going hungry all day long? It's others who deserve flogging. A rice-cake would be enough to stop the child from crying. Why, then, can't we afford it? What is the use of beating the little darling? We should fight those devils taking away everything from us, rendering it impossible for us to make even a piece of rice-cake for our children. You know the landlords carry away the rice, the fruits of our sweat, don't you? It's because of those brutes that we live in poverty, ill-clad and hunger-stricken. Your heartbreak is also ours."

Moved by these words of Mrs. Kang Ban Sok, the woman tightly held her child in her arms and clenched her teeth with hatred for the exploiting classes and the feudal ruling system.

Like this Mrs. Kang Ban Sok who was born into a revolutionary family had a strong hatred against Japanese imperialism and the exploiting classes and was well-educated and possessed of fine traits from her childhood.

Later she was married to Mr. Kim Hyong Jik, an ardent anti-Japanese fighter.

The family of Mr. Kim Hyong Jik was very poor and was a large one having twelve members. Mrs. Kang Ban Sok as the eldest daughter-in-law of such a big family had heavy responsibilities to discharge.

But Mrs. Kang Ban Sok managed the household affairs with a stronger sense of responsibility, taking upon herself both hard and troublesome jobs so that her husband could devote more time to his revolutionary work.

Mrs. Kang Ban Sok remained very dutiful to her husband's parents and, apart from managing the domestic affairs in place of her husband, dedicated her all to assisting the revolutionary struggle of Mr. Kim Hyong Jik and the revolutionary activities of his comrades-in-arms.

The home of Mr. Kim Hyong Jik was frequently visited by those who were active with him. Scarcely a day passed without such guests when he was in Mangyongdae or in Kangdong, all the more so when he settled down in Northeast China. They did come whenever occasion offered itself, regardless of the time.

They came at midnight and even when the family ran out of food and could not afford even gruel. But never had there been any shadow on the face of Mrs. Kang Ban Sok. On the contrary she spared no efforts to do anything if it was helpful to them even a bit. In Mangyongdae and later in Kangdong, Junggangjin, Rimgang, Paltogu, Musong and elsewhere she went, Mrs. Kang Ban Sok served revolutionaries to her best lest they should feel any slight inconvenience even under the hard living conditions attended with the persecution by Japanese imperialism and abject poverty constantly like a shadow.

So many people respected and followed Mr. Kim Hyong Jik. This is, of course, attributable to his lofty traits and moral character, yet it is also closely associated with the invisible efforts of Mrs. Kang Ban Sok.

Mrs. Kang Ban Sok, in any adversity, fought with a firm conviction that the fatherland would certainly become independent.

A grandma, Mrs. Yu, who had lived next-door to Mrs. Kang Ban Sok at that time still vividly conveys the kind advice of Mrs. Kang Ban Sok who said when the lack of confidence in victory was manifested in her:

"Sister! The fruit is bound to get ripe when the season comes round. Though we are having a hard time now, it's sure Korea will win independence before long. Let us go back to the homeland then and live a happy life together."

Mrs. Kang Ban Sok was a tender and kind-hearted mother but was very resolute and staunch in the fight against Japanese imperialism.

It happened in Kangdong in 1917. Soon after the Japanese imperialist police arrested and escorted Mr. Kim Hyong Jik to prison, a group of mounted policemen rushed to ransack the house.

Enraged at this, Mrs. Kang Ban Sok resisted the police chief, spitting him in the face, shouting: "Go ahead! Search as you like!"

The police who at first assumed quite a threatening look stepped backward and turned tail, scared by the staunchness of Mrs. Kang Ban Sok.

As she had a firm confidence in victory and strong traits, Mrs. Kang Ban Sok, not pessimistic in the least even after the passing away of Mr. Kim Hyong Jik, assisted his comrades-in-arms with all sincerity in their revolutionary activities, helped those around her open their eyes and dedicated all her energies and wisdom to bringing up her children into fine revolutionaries who would carry forward the far-reaching purpose of their father.

AMONG THE PEOPLE

The Premier Comes to Our Boat

Choi Gun Ho

(Continued from our issue No. 13)

"Why are your clothes so foul?"

"...I've been out on the sea for long. I found it hard to wash clothes in the sea water. And raincoat, once worn, stains black even the clothes under it."

"Raincoat shouldn't be like that, I think. Well, let me see it."

Raincoat was filthy as it had been thrown away without washing off scales after work. So, I was hesitant before I brought it to him.

The Premier after receiving it closely examined both sides of the raincoat, and tried it on without hesitation.

And he ran through the sleeves of the raincoat and swung his arms, examined whether the length of the raincoat fitted the body well, scrutinized its seams, and said to the man accompanying him, who arrived later: "... Raincoat should not be made like this. It must be made better to suit the fishermen's convenience."

How sorry and restless we felt when the Premier tried on the filthy raincoat stinking of fish!

I could not but feel all the more keenly the sense of pride in the worthwhile life of today when the Premier personally visited the solitary port at the early dawn and took care of the life of the fishermen there, even trying on their raincoat.

At this moment, I resolved to myself:

(I should catch more fish to supply the people with more fish! Then the Premier will be very much satisfied!)

Then, the Premier walked up to the cabin.

"Let me have a look at the cabin. Don't you feel inconvenience in your life in the boat?"

After entering the cabin, the Premier gave a careful look to the cabin and said, feeling reed-mats: "It is damp on the sea. You, therefore, must lay 'tatami' or mats on the floor instead of reed-mats and make the cabin larger so as to smoke in the cabin when it is cold... You should keep your cabin tidier and cleaner."

When the Premier said that we should keep the cabin tidy and clean, I felt ashamed.

In fact, we became the masters of the country, our living standards rose considerably and we came to enjoy a decent life after the country's liberation.

But, until then we lacked orderliness in some respects of our life because of the bad habit formed in old society.

Hence, we entirely depended on superiors without tackling even the matters we could settle by ourselves and thought the responsibility rested with the leading personnel. And it was common practice that we were careless about our dress and daily life when we had our hands full.

We neglected private hygiene. We did not keep tidy and clean even the cabin, our dwelling place; we failed to wash in good time fatigue-clothes supplied by the state free of charge; and we did not have our hair cut timely.

Remorseful of myself I hung my head.

The Premier also paid attention to our dietary life.

At this moment, the pot containing rice for breakfast was bubbling up at one corner of the cabin. The Premier said smiling:

"It gives an appetizing smell. May I see what you are cooking?"

I opened the lids of the pots one after another for him.

He was satisfied with the good meal the fishermen were preparing, saying: "You are cooking good rice and making savoury fresh fish soup." And he asked my comrades around him if we felt hungry when we were out on the sea, if coarse grains were included in rationed food, how much food we were rationed, if we got a supply of vegetables when we were out on the sea, and if we got an adequate supply of firewood.

We gave unreserved answers to these kind questions of the Premier.

The Premier said the functionaries of the fishery should take a good care of the life of the fishermen and organize production better.

And he shook hands with us one by one.

"Good-bye! I wish you fresh successes in your work," he bid us farewell and left our boat.

I gazed after the Premier receding from the view in the morning sunshine for long.

I grew old with the sea and was not a sensible man. But I thought of many things at this moment.

(Why did he visit this nameless pier at dawn when all people were asleep?)

Years have gone since then, and today I know all the more clearly why he came to our pier.

In April, 1957, two months before his visit to our port, a Plenum of the Party Central Committee had a serious discussion about "further developing fishing industry" and adopted relevant decisions.

At the Plenum the Premier who always pays deep attention to the improvement of the people's life indicated the concrete ways of further developing the fishing industry.

The Premier set it as a task to catch annually 500,000 to 600,000 tons of fish or 50 to 60 kilogrammes per head of the population during the Five-Year Plan period by developing pelagic, medium and small and seasonal fishings, and, for the fulfilment of this huge task, called upon the fishermen to develop in a big way the fishing industry in the West Sea which had remained unexploited.

And he personally came to the west coast to study the situation of our fishery and direct it.

It was from his fervent wish to feed the population on more fish that he came to this nameless port at dawn.

That was a significant dawn in my fisherman's career of three decades; he kindled a fierce flame in my heart.

Since then we did not return to the port without catching much fish.

Even when the boat was going to be upset by the unexpected storm, we did not let go our hold of the nets containing fish as the lofty will of the Premier to feed the people on more fish beat in our hearts.

To repay the Premier for his love, we spent almost every day on the sea.

We shook off the old habit of neglecting private hygiene and drinking wine frequently and rose to participate in the honourable Chollima workteam movement, and won the title of Chollima work-team.

One day in October 1960, three years after the Premier's visit to our port, when we entered the port flying the flag of big catch, comrades said to me: "Uncle Choi, you are the happiest in the world. Today the Premier has been to our fishery. He still remembers you and asked after you."

At this unexpected news, I asked what they meant, forgetting to deliver the fish we had caught.

That day, too, he visited our fishery at the early dawn and looked it around and asked the functionaries of the fishery:

"Is the man, with whom I talked when I came in the summer of 1957, well?"

Informed that I was out on the sea, he felt sorry to fail to meet me and asked them to convey his best regards to me.

At these words, my head drooped unconsciously.

After his visit to our fishery in 1957, every condition was provided for us to work to the best of our ability.

What I did seemed to be too small for this solicitude.

That evening I steered the boat to the distant sea to repay without fail the Premier for his solicitude.

Five years have passed since that unforgettable early dawn. The five years are a very short period for me who has devoted the whole life to fishing.

What a great change has taken place in the fishing industry of the West Sea in this short time!

Our boat now going to the sea is not the sail boat of yesterday tied to the solitary port at the early dawn but an engine boat blowing a long whistle.

We scooped up fish by hand sweating at the dawn. But it has become a thing of the past and the unloading operation is now done by machines.

These are not all.

Our boats are accompanied by service boats. We, therefore, can see films, have our hair cut and take a bath on the sea far away from the port.

Women, too, who were unwilling to marry fishermen in the past afraid to become widows, are now competing with their husbands managing "women's boats."

The old lamentable story of "fishermen carry their lives in their hands" is heard no more today.

Today we conduct joyful fishing operation on the distant sea, hearing the weather forecast given by radio operators.

How many times the Premier visited the ports for these changes of today in the fishing industry!

Whenever I think of such care of the Premier for us fishermen, I renew my resolve: (Dear Premier, we know well your mind to supply the people with more fish. We can do anything if we work according to your will. We'll capture without fail the height of 800,000 tons of marine products this year!)

March 1962

Great Platform That Brightly Illumined the Road of Founding New Country

On the 22nd Anniversary of the Publication of the Twenty-Point Platform

Twenty-two years ago, on March 23, 1946, Comrade Kim Il Sung announced the historic Twenty-Point Platform.

The Twenty-Point Platform worked out and published personally by Comrade Kim Il Sung was a great programme that brightly illumined the road of struggle for the Korean people after the liberation by inheriting and developing the Ten-Point Programme of the Association for the Restoration of the Fatherland conceived and published in person by Comrade Kim Il Sung on May 5, 1936 in the period of the arduous anti-Japanese armed struggle. In it are concretely expounded a series of political, economic, social and cultural tasks to be carried out by the people's power in the stage of anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic revolution.

The Twenty-Point Platform of programmatic significance in the thoroughgoing anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic revolution became the banner of struggle of the entire Korean people for the unification and independence of the fatherland and for its democratisation.

Greeting the 22nd anniversary of the publication of the Twenty-Point Platform, the Korean people declare before the whole world with great national pride and self-confidence that they could achieve brilliant victories thanks to the wise leadership of their great Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and will surely emerge victorious also in the future as long as they are guided by him.

In the Twenty-Point Platform, Comrade Kim Il Sung correctly set forth the immediate tasks and duties in revolution and the line of struggle on the basis of scientific analysis of the political situation, socio-economic conditions, balance of class forces, etc. in our country after the liberation and thus clearly indicated the path our people should follow.

Comrade Kim Il Sung defined the immediate tasks and political line of our revolution at that time as follows:

"...**Today the Korean people are confronted with the task to fulfil an anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic revolution and the task to found a democratic people's republic.**

"**The political line of our Party at the present stage is to establish a unified democratic political power in our country on the basis of co-operation with all democratic political parties and public organisations and convert North Korea into a powerful democratic base for the construction of a unified and democratic independent state.**"

The historic Twenty-Point Platform in which Comrade Kim Il Sung further concretised the political line of our Party provides for important tasks—the liquidation of the survivals of Japanese imperialism and feudal conditions in all social life, democratic elections to power organs by universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret ballot, guarantee of complete democratic freedom and rights in all spheres of people's living, enforcement of anti-imperialist, anti-feudal economic reforms including land reform and the nationalisation of major industries, establishment of universal compulsory education system and people's education system, introduction of free medical treatment and state guarantee for the development of science, culture and arts, and so on.

With the publication of the Twenty-Point Platform our people came to have the most correct fighting programme that clearly showed the way along which they should go following the liberation.

The Twenty-Point Platform laid down the most fundamental policy tasks for developing our country in a democratic way. Therefore, only by carrying this platform into effect could our country develop along a democratic course and our nation win genuine freedom and independence.

It was thanks to rich experiences gained in the flames of the anti-Japanese armed struggle and the great Ten-Point Programme of the Association for the Restoration of the Fatherland that our Party and people could possess such correct programme of struggle as the Twenty-Point Platform after the liberation.

Comrade Kim Il Sung put forward a correct line and scientific

(Continued on Page 4)

BRILLIANT VICTORY DEMONSTRATING INVINCIBLE MIGHT OF KOREAN PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY ARMY

On the Occasion of 28th Anniv. of Victory in Daemarokku and Honggiha Battles

The battles in Daemarokku and Honggiha waged on March 11 and 25, 1940, were annihilation operations which dealt a devastating blow to the desperate "punitive operation" of the Japanese imperialists in the areas along the Duman River and were important battles which demonstrated once again to the whole world the sagacity of the leadership of Comrade Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader, and his pre-eminent strategy and tactics and the invincible combat might of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army.

In accordance with the revolutionary strategic line of *Juche* for effecting a greater upsurge in the anti-Japanese armed struggle and the overall revolutionary movement in Korea set forth at the historic Nampaeza Meeting by Comrade Kim Il Sung, the ever-victorious, iron-willed genius-commander, the main force of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army under the personal command of Comrade Kim Il Sung carried out the "arduous march" for more than 100 days for advancing into the homeland and proceeded to the Musan area, and the area north-east of Mt. Baekdu, administering deadly blows to the enemy and instilling in the hearts of the Korean people a firm conviction of victory.

Scared by this, the Japanese imperialists resorted to machinations of every description to "annihilate" the main force of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army led by Comrade Kim Il Sung, the heart and brain of the Korean revolution. To this end they set up the so-called "punitive command" in Kilrim, stationed their big units in many places along the Duman River and conducted "regional punitive operations." On the other hand, they tried hard to disrupt the Korean People's Revolutionary Army from within.

In face of such manoeuvres of the enemy, Comrade Kim Il Sung put forth a new, bold and active strategic line of going over to the circuit operation by a large force along the carefully premeditated secret routes and brilliantly translated it into practice, inflicting more disastrous defeats upon the enemy.

The Daemarokku and Honggiha battles were also the battles of significance which dealt a crushing blow at and won brilliant victory over the enemies in accordance with this new line of Comrade Kim Il Sung, at a time when the enemy's frenzy reached the extreme.

Daemarokku was one of the key points entrenched by the enemy's "punitive force" and policemen.

Comrade Kim Il Sung decided to mount an attack on Daemarokku and captured alive all the enemies, in accordance with the operational plan directly worked out by Comrade Kim Il Sung.

Boundlessly inspired by the triumphant advance of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army, the workers there gave an enthusiastic welcome to the guerrillas, shouting at the top of their voice "Long live Comrade Kim Il Sung!" and "Long live the Korean People's Revolutionary Army!" When the battle was over, the political workers of the guerrilla army explained and propagated to hundreds of workers the lofty mission of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army and exposed the aggressive schemes of the Japanese imperialists and distributed captured food and clothes among them.

Then Comrade Kim Il Sung adopting tactics of preternatural swiftness wiped out the enemies who were in desperate pursuit of the guerrillas at the urgent report on the attack on Daemarokku, thus making the enemy give up their pursuit.

After the brilliant victory in the Daemarokku battle, Comrade Kim Il Sung let the whole unit take a brief rest near Hwarazu in Ando County and make preparations for advancing into the homeland.

Just then it was informed that more than 170 bandits of the Japanese imperialist "punitive force" and over 300 puppet Manchukuo troops were in chase of the guerrillas in a valley near Hwarazu.

Thus Comrade Kim Il Sung planned the Honggiha battle, having decided to deal another annihilating blow to the desperate enemy before marching into the homeland.

Comrade Kim Il Sung ambushed guerrillas in the mountain ridges on both sides of the Honggiha river and lured the enemy into where our guerrillas were lying in ambush, employing a flexible tactics.

As soon as a shot signalling Comrade Kim Il Sung's shooting order rang out, guerrillas on both ridges fired upon the enemy all at once.

Taken by surprise, the enemies fell thick and fast under our fire and survivors were like a rat in the trap. In this battle the guerrillas captured alive more than 30 enemies and wiped out over 140 enemies and seized quantities of weapons and war supplies. When the "Maeda" unit organised with wicked elements of Japanese imperialism was stamped out, more than 300 chasing troops of the puppet Manchukuo army dared not put themselves against the guerrillas and took to their heels.

Hit hard continually, the enemy fell on the Korean People's Revolutionary Army desperately and more tenaciously. But Comrade Kim Il Sung, employing resourceful strategy and tactics, held the initiative at all times and won battle after battle.

The brilliant victory in the Daemarokku and Honggiha battles waged under the personal command of Comrade Kim Il Sung fully demonstrated once again the brilliant strategy and tactics of Comrade Kim Il Sung and the invincible combat might of the anti-Japanese guerrilla.

To cope with the enemy's desperate machinations to encircle and blockade the guerrilla army by hurling a large armed force at that time, Comrade Kim Il Sung applied the line of conducting the circuit operation by a large force along the carefully premeditated secret routes. When the enemies gave chase to the guerrillas, he lured them to a vantage point and hit hard at them and then moved to another place. And when the enemies followed the guerrillas again, he let the guerrillas decoy them away as quickly as possible, thus throwing them into confusion and striking harder at them. In this way he inflicted heavy blows on the enemies by means of flexible tactics.

The Daemarokku and Honggiha battles were the significant battles in which the anti-Japanese guerrillas under the personal command of Comrade Kim Il Sung, completely shattered by means of new guerrilla tactics the attempt of the enemies to wipe out the guerrilla army by concentrating a large force and adopting "tick tactics" since 1939.

Indeed, in many battles waged in the whole course of 15-year-long anti-Japanese armed struggle including the Daemarokku and Honggiha battles, the anti-Japanese guerrillas under the sagacious leadership of the great Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, ably organised assaults and ambushes, attacks on towns, anti-encircling operations, encounter actions and so on by skillfully applying the multifarious guerrilla tactics and won brilliant victory in every battle.

This victorious course fully showed the outstanding leadership of the great Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, who, taking upon himself the destiny of the Korean people, devoted his all solely to the struggle for the restoration of the fatherland and the freedom and liberation of the people and his stubborn revolutionary sweep to carry through to the end the strategic and tactical lines of the revolution once mapped out by him.

Besides, the Daemarokku and Honggiha battles were battles which brilliantly demonstrated by practice the might of the anti-Japanese guerrillas who had been well educated and trained not only politically and ideologically but also militarily and technically and had grown into unbreakable ranks through the intensive military and political training organised and conducted in the secret camp in Baeksudang under the personal guidance of Comrade Kim Il Sung. These battles made it possible to further enrich the battle experience of the units of the People's Revolutionary Army and consolidate and develop the theory they had learned. Through this course, too, we see again the distinguished intelligence and revolutionary foresight of the Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung who reared the People's Revolutionary Army into iron ranks by steadily expanding and strengthening them, always with a firm conviction of the victory of the revolution in any adversity.

The battles in Daemarokku and Honggiha, together with many other battles waged at that time, frustrated the "punitive design" of the enemy by giving wholesale death to the enemies who were concentrated on the Duman River near the border and inspired the Korean people groaning under the harsh exploitation and fascist suppression by Japanese imperialism with the conviction of victory and powerfully aroused them to the anti-Japanese struggle.

In those days the Korean people fought with confidence looking up as the star of salvation of the nation to Comrade Kim Il Sung, the national hero and ever-victorious, iron-willed genius-commander, who defended the banner of the revolution to the end even in the dark period of Japanese imperialist rule and led the Korean revolution to victory, and drawing strength from the brilliant victories of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army led by him and seeing the future of the liberated fatherland in him.

Through the battles in Daemarokku and Honggiha and many other battles waged in those days, the Korean People's Revolutionary Army dealt hard blows at the Japanese imperialist aggressors bent on the so-called consolidation of their rear for the implementation of their aggressive plan against the Soviet Union, and thereby made a great contribution to further strengthening international solidarity with the Soviet and Chinese peoples.

The precious exploits made and unbreakable revolutionary spirit displayed by the Korean People's Revolutionary Army in the course of the protracted anti-Japanese armed struggle, including the battles in Daemarokku and Honggiha, have been brilliantly inherited and developed by our Party after the country's liberation and they are valuable assets for accelerating the victory of our revolution.

Jo Son Won

(Continued from Page 3)

strategy and tactics at each stage of the anti-Japanese armed struggle and brightly illumined the road ahead of the Korean people. The line and tasks of the Korean revolution outlined by Comrade Kim Il Sung were formulated in an all-round way in the Ten-Point Programme of the Association for the Restoration of the Fatherland.

The Twenty-Point Platform which inherited and developed the great ideas of Comrade Kim Il Sung, like the Ten-Point Programme of the Association for the Restoration of the Fatherland, was a most revolutionary, Marxist-Leninist programme in which the demands of the development of our revolution after the liberation were embodied in an all-round way.

The Twenty-Point Platform, like the Ten-Point Programme of the Association for the Restoration of the Fatherland, embodied in itself Comrade Kim Il Sung's great revolutionary ideas, steadfastly anti-imperialist stand of *Juche* and revolutionary spirit of self-reliance.

The Twenty-Point Platform was a revolutionary programme which reflected the unshakable stand of our Party for building an independent state of self-reliance and self-sustenance by thoroughly opposing U.S. imperialism as well as Japanese imperialism and rejecting the interference of any outside forces.

From the first day of its founding, our Party has held fast to the principled stand and uncompromising attitude of opposing U.S. imperialism, thoroughly rejecting all illusions about the spurious slogans of U.S. imperialism.

Our Party bent every effort for building up the internal force of the revolution to establish a unified democratic government while waging an uncompromising struggle against all the heinous schemes of U.S. imperialism and reactionary forces—pro-Japanese, pro-American elements, traitors to the nation, landlords and comprador capitalists—who were raising their heads again under the aegis of U.S. imperialism.

Correctly taking into account such objective condition and the future course of the development of revolution in our country, Comrade Kim Il Sung put forth the line on turning the northern half into a fountainhead of the revolution—democratic base—by developing without delay the revolution in the northern half.

The Twenty-Point Platform became an immovable compass in thoroughly implementing the line of building and consolidating the very revolutionary democratic base.

The course of the struggle for materialising this platform proved that an uncompromising struggle against imperialism was the only way for the unification and independence of the fatherland and reliance upon outside forces was the way to ruin and that the Korean people could build a unified and independent state by their own efforts. It also showed that only when they directed their to the stand of *Juche* could they win victory in the revolution.

The Twenty-Point Platform is a most democratic programme which splendidly represents the common national interests of the working class, peasantry and patriotic people of all other strata in the stage of anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic revolution.

It reflects the demand of our Party's line on the united national front formed by the patriotic people of all walks of life on the basis of the worker-peasant alliance under the leadership of the working class and thereby lead them to the struggle against imperialism and to the construction of a unified independent sovereign state.

Comrade Kim Il Sung taught:

"The democratic provisional government of Korea can enjoy the absolute support of the entire people and mobilize the working masses for the fulfilment of the important tasks raised before it only when it carries out democratic reforms such as land reform, nationalisation of major industries and measures for ensuring the development of national culture and the democratisation of social and political life and guarantees the interests of the Korean people.

"The Twenty-Point Platform we have published prior to the establishment of a democratic provisional government should naturally be a joint programme of our committee for united democratic national front and all our activities should be conducted with it as a guide."

The Twenty-Point Platform is a programme which reflects the basic requirements to be met by the working class in the stage of anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic revolution and in which the political line of our Party is concretised and, at the same time, a joint programme of the united front which fully accords with the national interests of the entire people.

Therefore the Twenty-Point Platform enlisted the absolute support of the whole people and was brilliantly carried out by their efforts. Precisely herein lies an aspect of the democratic nature and creativeness of the Twenty-Point Platform.

For its revolutionary character and scientific contents, the Twenty-Point Platform was, indeed, of great significance in the struggle of our people for the construction of a democratic independent sovereign state.

Comrade Kim Il Sung said as follows:

(Continued on Page 5)

Reactionary Japanese Authorities Must Ensure Korean Citizens in Japan All Democratic, National Rights

Enlarged Meeting of the United Democratic Fatherland Front Held

The Central Committee of the United Democratic Fatherland Front held an enlarged meeting on March 31 at the Moranbong Theatre to discuss the question of "intensifying the struggle for smashing the intrigues of the reactionary government of Japan to cook up the law on alien school system and defending the right of the Korean compatriots in Japan to democratic, national education."

Respectfully hung at the back of the platform was a portrait of Comrade Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader of the 40 million Korean people. Two national flags of the Republic were on its either side.

Seen in the platform party were Comrade Li Ju Yon; Paek Nam Wun, Chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly; Presidium Members of the Central Committee of the United Democratic Fatherland Front, Kang Ryang Wuk, Chairman of the Central Committee of the North Korean Democratic Party, Pak Shin Dok, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Religious Chongwu Party, Kim Chon Hae, Choi Won Taek, Li Guk Ro and Ko Jun Taek; Ministers of the Cabinet and responsible personnel of the government organs and public organisations.

Kang Ryang Wuk, Presidium Member of the Central Committee of the Fatherland Front, made a report at the meeting.

Saying that lately the Japanese militarists, under the manipulation of the U.S. imperialist aggressors, have become ever more desperate in their bestial machinations to trample underfoot and obliterate totally the democratic, national rights of the Korean citizens in Japan, the reporter pointed out that this is a grave criminal act wantonly violating international law and international practice, a shameless challenge to broad segments of the Japanese people and unbiased world public opinion and a naked manifestation of their reckless hostile policy against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, a proud, sovereign socialist power.

He said: The reactionary Sato government of Japan is scheming to completely stamp out through the "law on alien school system" the democratic, national education of Korean citizens in Japan, whose lofty aim is to educate the sons and daughters of the Korean compatriots in Japan in the great revolutionary ideas of Comrade Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader, and the brilliant revolutionary traditions of the Workers' Party of Korea and in the ideas of socialist patriotism and to educate them into men of a new type well prepared mentally, morally and physically.

He stressed:

The reactionary Sato clique of Japan can by no means shirk the legal and moral responsibility for unconditionally ensuring the Korean citizens in Japan the democratic, national rights including the right to national education.

He quoted the following words of Comrade Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader:

"Today, however, as proud overseas citizens of their beloved fatherland, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, they have boundless national confidence and pride, and see their happy future in the prosperity and development of the Republic."

The reporter pointed out that Comrade Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader, remitted over 6,623,420,000 yen (Japanese currency) on 27 occasions as the educational aid fund and stipends for the democratic, national education of the sons and daughters of the Korean compatriots in Japan and directs profound solicitude to their life in all aspects.

The reporter continued:

The 600,000 Korean compatriots in Japan, regarding it as the greatest honour and happiness to have as the Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great Leader of the 40 million Korean people, peerless patriot, national hero, ever-victorious, iron-willed genius-commander and one of the outstanding leaders of the international communist and working-class movements, who directs such profound solicitude for the education of the sons and daughters of the compatriots in an alien land, are assiduously studying to arm themselves with the revolutionary ideas of the great Leader, the unitary ideology and brilliant revolutionary traditions of the Workers' Party of Korea and devotedly participating in the patriotic work so as to repay the benevolence of the Leader as high as a great mountain.

He noted that today over 140 regular schools of all levels ranging from university with latest establishment to kindergarten and some 320 non-regular schools are run independently under the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan and more than 40,000 sons and daughters of the Korean compatriots in Japan are studying in these schools to become able national cadres of the future.

The reporter said that synchronising with the recent ever more frantic intensification of the new war provocation manoeuvres in Korea of the U.S. imperialist aggressors and their stooges traitorous Pak Jung Hi puppet clique following the incident of the capture of the armed spy ship "Pueblo," the reactionary Sato clique of Japan are further stepping up the scheme to stamp out the right of the Korean citizens in Japan to democratic, national education and intensifying such acts as arson, destruction and encroachment against the educational establishments of the Korean citizens in Japan and terror, violence and murder against Korean teachers and students. All this clearly shows that the criminal acts of the Japanese reactionary clique are a link in the chain of the manoeuvres of the U.S. imperialist aggressors for the provocation of a new war in Korea and are connected with the vicious political purpose for speeding up a comeback to South Korea, the reporter remarked and stressed:

All facts bespeak that the reactionary Sato clique are the faithful lackeys of the U.S. imperialist aggressors and vicious fascist gang descending from Tojo, collaborators of the U.S. imperialist aggressors in opposing the Korean people and nefarious aggressors running wild to reinvade South Korea in collusion with the traitorous Pak Jung Hi puppet clique and vicious criminals harassing peace in the Far East.

He warmly supported the right-, eous, staunch struggle of the 600,000 Korean compatriots in Japan and the Japanese people against the "alien school system bill" and for defending the rights of the Korean compatriots in Japan to national education and repatriation and expressed solidarity with and militant salute to them.

He recalled the following words of Comrade Kim Il Sung:

"The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea regards it as its sacred duty to protect the 600,000 Korean compatriots in Japan and all other overseas Korean citizens and defend their national rights. We will continue to fight stubbornly against all the unwarranted acts of infringing upon the national rights of the overseas Korean citizens and persecuting and humiliating them, and will always resolutely support and inspire our overseas compatriots in their just struggle."

The reporter stressed that the reactionary government of Japan should remember the determined and unshakable stand of the D.P.R.K. Government and realise that it can never shake off its responsibility for unconditionally ensuring the Korean citizens in Japan the democratic, national rights.

He demanded the reactionary Sato clique of Japan to stop at once their machinations and put an immediate end to the intrigue to fabricate the notorious "law on alien school system" and the odious criminal act of hampering the resumption of Korea University in Tokyo.

Stressing that the reactionary Sato clique should stop the criminal machinations to deprive the Korean citizens in Japan of their right to repatriation and implement with all sincerity their obligation till the lofty humanitarian work of the repatriation of the Korean citizens in Japan is finished, he said that as long as there are those desirous of returning home, the repatriation work of Korean citizens in Japan must not be stopped halfway but must be continued.

The Korea-Japan Red Cross talks should be resumed forthwith to continue the repatriation operation of the Korean citizens in Japan, the reporter held.

He emphasized:

The Korean people of today are a heroic people who, under the wise leadership of Comrade Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader of the 40 million Korean people, peerless patriot, national hero, ever-victorious, iron-willed genius-commander and one of the outstanding leaders of the international communist and working-class movements, defeated the U.S. imperialist armed invaders and shattered to smithereens the myth about the "mightiness" of the U.S. imperialists, a great people who have built the country of Chollima, a powerful socialist country standing imposingly with radiance in the East, a resourceful people who have wrought world-startling miracles by displaying the revolutionary spirit of independence, self-sustenance and self-defence and a mighty people, all rallied with one ideology and one will around the great Leader as firm as a rock.

The Korean people will never tolerate any infringement upon and interference in the democratic, national rights of the 600,000 compatriots in Japan, full-fledged overseas citizens of the Republic.

The reactionary Sato clique of Japan should clearly realise that if they, despite the stern warnings of the Korean people, persistently rig up the "law on alien school system" and continue to perpetrate the unwarranted interference in and suppression of the national education of Korean citizens in Japan, they should be entirely held responsible for all the consequences arising therefrom, he warned in conclusion.

Then, the floor was taken by Sim Jae Song, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea; Kim Jong Suk, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth; Jon In Chol, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the D.P.R.K. Red Cross Society; and Ju Ryong Chul, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Literary and Art Workers.

Condemning the criminal machinations of the reactionary Sato clique the speakers declared that all the democratic, national rights of the compatriots in Japan must be ensured unconditionally.

The meeting adopted a letter expressing militant solidarity addressed to personages of the democratic political parties and public organisations and the people of all walks of life in Japan.

(Continued from Page 4)

"...The publication of the Twenty-Point Platform was of no small help to the ideological unity of our Party. The Twenty-Point Platform clearly indicated the road to be followed by our people who had had no clear idea of the direction of struggle, but also enabled our Party members to have a more concrete understanding of the political line of the Party."

The Twenty-Point Platform closely rallied the Party members and people with a single correct goal under the complicated circumstances after the liberation and rendered it possible to smash at every step the subversive and disruptive schemes of alien elements and anti-Party factional elements who had wormed themselves into the Party ranks, ensure the unity and cohesion of the Party, unite the entire people around the Party and the Leader and lead all of them to advance along the path indicated by the Leader.

In particular, it armed the entire Party members and people with the idea of *Juche*, revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and thoroughly anti-imperialist ideas put forth by Comrade Kim Il Sung that the master of Korea is none other than the Korean people themselves and all problems arising in our country should after all be settled by the unified internal force of our people and enabled them to do away with the proclivities to colonial slavery and heighten brave national stamina, national pride and self-confidence.

It dealt a powerful blow to the U.S. imperialists and their stooge reactionary forces who were dead set against the establishment of a unified provisional government and gave a powerful impetus to the anti-U.S., national-salvation struggle of the South Korean people.

The correctness and vitality of the Twenty-Point Platform were more saliently demonstrated later in the course of our people's struggle.

Under the banner of the Twenty-Point Platform published by Comrade Kim Il Sung, a series of democratic reforms were carried out to the hilt in a short span of time in the northern half of the Republic, the northern half turned into a powerful and mighty political, economic and military bastion, into a firm revolutionary base which is playing a leading role in the Korean revolution and our people created full pre-conditions for their advance to the stage of the socialist revolution.

On the basis of valuable successes gained in the course of struggle for carrying into effect the Twenty-Point Platform, we could found the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the glorious fatherland of our people, and this is a brilliant embodiment of the Twenty-Point Platform.

By forging ahead under the banner of the Republic our people defeated the U.S. imperialist armed invaders during the past Fatherland Liberation War and defended with honour the freedom and independence of the fatherland and, by accomplishing the socialist revolution and expediting the socialist construction, won great victory in revolution and construction.

Comrade Kim Il Sung pointed out as follows:

"In this land where harsh exploitation and oppression, centuries-old backwardness and penury once prevailed, an advanced, socialist system has now been established under which all help each other, work together and lead a happy life, and our fatherland has come to be a socialist state which has a firm independent national economy and brilliant national culture."

Today, all for which the anti-Japanese fighters struggled, shedding their blood, and numerous revolutionary forerunners aspired to in the past have come true in the northern half of the Republic and our people are confidently advancing along the highway lit up by Comrade Kim Il Sung in the Political Programme of the Government of the Republic, looking forward to a brighter morrow.

But the tasks set forth in the Twenty-Point Platform still remain unaccomplished in the southern half of the Republic owing to the occupation of South Korea by the U.S. imperialists.

The Twenty-Point Platform, together with the Ten-Point Political Programme of the Government of the Republic, is the banner illumining the road for the South Korean people to take in their struggle.

Today the broad segments of the people in South Korea, raising higher the banner of resistance struggle against U.S. imperialism and for national salvation are waging an active struggle for such socialist paradise which has been built in the northern half of the Republic under the sagacious guidance of the Leader.

Following the highway indicated by Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great Leader of the 40 million Korean people, peerless patriot, national hero, ever-victorious, iron-willed genius-commander and one of the outstanding leaders of the international communist and working-class movements, we will certainly accomplish in our generation the supreme national task of driving the U.S. imperialist aggressors out of our territory, liberating South Korea and unifying the fatherland by the united strength of the North and South Korean people.

Hong Rae Hui

SHOULD U.S. IMPERIALIST WAR MANIACS RECKLESS WAR, THEY WILL MEET WITH

The U.S. Imperialist Aggressors Are Committing More Vicious Military Provocations

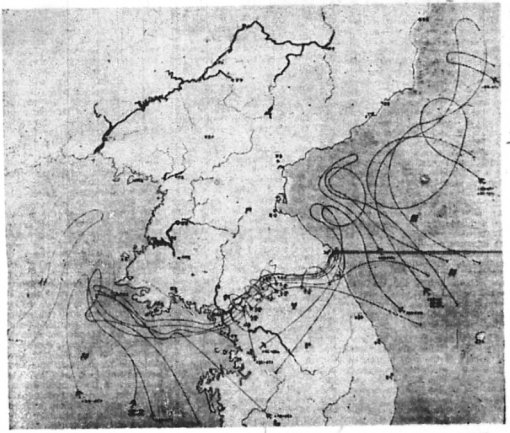
These days the U.S. imperialist aggressors are pushing to the further extreme their frantic machinations to start another aggressive war in Korea.

The American imperialist aggressors and the Pak Jung Hi clique, while madly raising new war cries, are bringing their aggressive forces into South Korea in a big way and committing more viciously reckless military provocations against the northern half of the Republic.

As a result, a grave situation has now been created in Korea in which another war may break out at any moment.

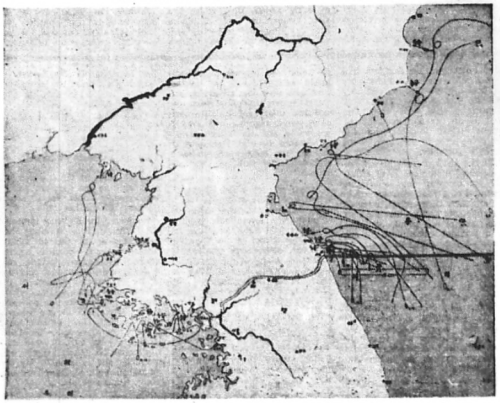
The military provocations of the U.S. imperialist aggressors and their stooges Pak Jung Hi puppet clique have been further intensified since Johnson, the war boss, came to South Korea in October 1966 and whipped up another aggressive war.

This mad war racket on the part of the U.S. imperialists against the northern half of the Republic has become all the more undisguised particularly in connection with the recent incident of the U.S. imperialists' armed spy ship "Pueblo" and with the armed struggle of the South Korean revolutionaries.



Above: A chart showing the intrusions of enemy planes into our air space for scouting activities

Below: A chart showing the movements of the enemy's armed espionage ships which intruded into the coastal waters of our side for reconnaissance



ON LAND

All acts of military provocation perpetrated by the U.S. imperialist aggressors on land alone from the beginning of the year to March 20 number more than 2,000 cases, a daily average of 25.

The enemy fired various guns and rifles in the Demilitarized Zone at our side on more than 540 occasions last year. But the U.S. imperialist aggressors fired more than 26,600 shells and bullets or a daily average of 332 at our side on 335 occasions with various guns and rifles in a little more than two months of this year.

As has already been reported, the armed attack of the U.S. imperialist aggressors on our side on March 27 and two armed raids on our post at dawn and in the morning of March 29 in the wake of armed attacks on February 13, 16 and 19 were completely frustrated each time by the self-defence measures of the Korean People's Army which is guarding the defence line of the socialist fatherland as firm as iron wall and the intruders were beat back and wiped out.

The military provocations committed ceaselessly by the U.S. imperialist aggressors are much larger in their scale and assume a more organized and planned character than those of last year.

At the same time, the U.S. imperialist aggressors are sending an increasing number of "specially" trained armed spies into the frontline area of the Military Demarcation Line and the areas of the northern half of the Republic to spy into military and state secrets, destroy military objects and industrial establishments and kill and kidnap people.

Since the incident of the "Pueblo" they have sent into the areas of the northern half of the Republic five to seven or more than ten "specially" trained armed spies a day.

Since the beginning of this year we arrested or killed and wounded 393 spies or a daily average of five.

ON SEA AND IN THE AIR

The U.S. imperialist aggressors are staging ceaseless military provocations on land as well as on sea and in the air.

They committed all sorts of hostile acts more than 180 times from January to March 20 by infiltrating 5,673 naval craft, armed spy boats and fishing boats deeply up to 2 to 3 miles or 10 to 20 miles north of the extension of the Military Demarcation Line and 0.5 to 10 miles off the coasts. They staged various military provocations 484 times from January to March 22.

They have madly tried to conduct bombardment by sending their naval craft deep into the coastal waters of our side and to make armed gangs attack and destroy the islands of our side and our coastal posts by dispatching various types of armed ships.

On March 11 a gang of 15 armed spies was wiped out by the Korean People's Army when it was going to infiltrate into our post on the West Sea. On March 12, a band of six armed spies was repulsed and wiped out when it was going to sneak into Kumtan-ri on the East Sea. These provocations have been conducted frequently. From January to March 22, a total of 39 enemy armed spy boats made intrusions, suffering 127 casualties.

In the same period, the U.S. imperialist aggressors have committed ceaseless provocations in the air, too.

The enemy sent a daily average of three to four aircraft of various types to conduct aerial reconnaissance, making repeated flights in the air over the areas 5 to 20 km south of the Military Demarcation Line from Baekryong Island on the west coastal sea up to the point 10 km. east of Kansong on the east coast.

In this period, they conducted reconnaissance of areas of our side along the east and west coasts on a total of 226 occasions.

Enemy aircraft perpetrated aerial reconnaissance, a daily average of one to two flying over the East Sea near the coast up to 30 km. east of Chongjin and an average of one over the West Sea near the coast up to 30 km. west of Hanchon.

Special mention must be made of the fact that in February the enemy sent various types of fighters and scout planes into the air up to 7 to 15 km. north of the Military Demarcation Line to conduct reconnaissance on a total of 14 occasions.

The U.S. imperialist aggressors mobilized for these provocations the "Pueblo" and other armed spy ships, "iron-clad submarine-chaser," "fast transport," "escort craft," "heavy landing craft," and other various vessels and various planes including "RB-57," "RB-66," "AO-1," "RBC-130," "EC-121," and "SC-47."

Heinous Crimes Have Been Brought to Full Light

The military provocations perpetrated by the U.S. imperialist aggressors in a planned way on land and sea and in the air and the heinous crimes of their armed spies were brought to full light at an exhibition held from March 22 at the meeting hall of the Ministry of National Defence.

Materials on display at the exhibition show in concrete terms that the number and scale of the military provocations committed by the U.S. imperialist aggressors and the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique against the northern half of the Republic on land and sea as well as in the air assume a very serious nature.

On view at the exhibition are materials showing the system of U.S. imperialist aggressors and the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique to train and employ spies to be sent against the northern half of the Republic and forms of disguising spies and the methods of sneaking spies. The visitors to the exhibition learn clearly from the exhibits

(Continued on Page 7)

DARE TO START FINAL DOOM

(Continued from Page 6)

how craftily the U.S. imperialist aggressors and their stooges are seeking to send more spies into the areas of the northern half of the Republic to conduct various subversive and sabotaging activities there.

Also on display at the exhibition are lethal weapons carried by the armed spies. Among them are recoilless guns, heavy machine-guns and other various weapons and new type weapons, various interception apparatuses, tape recorders, night observation apparatuses, photographing apparatuses and various poisons, outfit for camouflage, instruments to kill and kidnap personnel and particularly explosives to destroy military objects and important industrial establishments.

Le Van Ha, Acting Head ad Interim of the Permanent Mission of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation in our country, and military and cultural attaches of foreign embassies in Pyongyang and journalists saw the exhibits. The guests denounced with a surging indignation the aggressive machinations of the American imperialist aggressors and their stooges traitorous Pak Jung Hi clique who are in a frenzy to start another war in Korea and warmly congratulated the heroic Korean People's Army on having smashed resolutely the military provocations of the enemy.

Chan Van Tan, Councillor of the Embassy of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, wrote in the visitor's book that the U.S. imperialists and their stooges traitorous Pak Jung Hi clique are stepping up their aggressive acts against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea but all of their machinations were dealt each time annihilating blows by the heroic Korean People's Army. And he extended warm congratulations to the officers and men of the Korean People's Army who are carrying out with credit the honourable duties given by Comrade Premier Kim Il Sung.

Victorio Eme Copa, special correspondent of Prensa Latina, made the following entry into the Visitor's book "All exhibits here once again show clearly that the American imperialists and their stooges Pak Jung Hi puppet clique continue to violate the Armistice Agreement treacherously and wantonly."

* * *

The frantic war machinations of the U.S. imperialist aggressors have reached a dangerous stage and not a single day passes without seeing the provocations of the enemy.

Whenever the U.S. imperialist war maniacs staged military provocations, they suffered resolute punishments from the Korean People's Army which is built up into a revolutionary army each of whose men is a match for a hundred foes. But the American imperialist aggressors, despite repeated strong warnings of our side, still cherish aggressive ambition.

The heroic Korean People's Army and the entire people of Korea under the wise leadership of Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great Leader of the 40 million Korean people, will return retaliation for the "retaliation" of the U.S. imperialist aggressors and allout war for allout war.

Should the American imperialist aggressors start another aggressive war despite our repeated warnings, they will perish in the flame of war kindled by themselves.

S. Korean Workers' Struggle Expands with Rapidity

In South Korea today the struggle of the working class is speedily growing in scope and strength along with the upsurge of armed guerrilla struggle.

The mass struggle of the South Korean working class assumes a more systematic and more active form and involves fields of mining and railway, South Korea's "key industries," and such economic branches as shipment, marine transportation and chemical fibre industry. And the ranks of struggle are growing in scope and intensity as the days go by.

The rapid expansion of the worker's struggle is connected, above all, with the facts that the feeling of boundless reverence and respect for Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great Leader of the 40 million Korean people, is deepening among the South Korean people and that their yearning for the northern half of the Republic daily prospering and developing under his wise leadership is becoming greater. This is also associated with the facts that owing to the U.S. imperialists' and the Pak Jung Hi clique's intensification of fascist suppression and-plunder of the people for another war, the workers are further condemned to absence of all rights and their living conditions are becoming worse and that the South Korean workers are greatly inspired by the armed guerrilla struggle going on in various parts of South Korea.

The South Korean workers are gradually directing their spearhead of struggle against the predatory and treacherous policy of the Pak Jung Hi clique, defying the desperate fascist oppression by U.S. imperialism and the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique.

★ At Organs of U.S. Aggressor Army

South Korean workers hired by the organs of the U.S. imperialist aggressor army also came out in the struggle. On March 19, over 700 workers working at an organ of the U.S. imperialist aggressor army in Seoul put up a struggle against the Yankee beasts who sweated them mercilessly subjecting them to all manner of national humiliation and maltreatment. Similar struggles were also fought in Dongduchon, Bupyong and other places of Kyonggi Province.

★ In Railway Field

Over 30,000 railway workers who had risen up in the struggle since the end of last year fought stubbornly for more than 70 days and eventually had part of their demands met. They submitted to the puppet government demands including wage increase and payment of overtime allowances. They formed "struggle committees" in Seoul and many other parts of South Korea to take the concerted action. They decided to call a general strike on March 6 and launched a resolute prolonged struggle.

Upset by this the Pak Jung Hi clique could not but accept part of their demands on March 4, two days before the strike. Having won victory in their struggle, the railway workers are carrying on their fight continually to have the rest of their demands met.

★ In the Field of Coal-Mining Industry

The flames of struggle of coal miners are flaring up all over South Korea.

On December 28 of last year more than 1,000 representatives of colliers from various parts of South Korea staged a demonstration in front of the national assembly building scattering handbills reading "We categorically oppose the switching over to oil policy" of the Pak Jung Hi clique. With this as an occasion, protest meetings and demonstrations were held in succession and bloody stone-throwing struggles were fought between workers and the puppet army and police since the beginning of the year in Mungyong of North Kyongsang Province, in many coal mines in Kangwon Province, and in other coal mines in different parts of South Korea.

As was already reported the Pak Jung Hi clique fabricated last year the so-called "switching over to oil policy," that is, to depend on oil imported from the United States instead of using coal produced in South Korea. This is a treacherous policy of the Pak Jung Hi clique, faithful lackeys of U.S. imperialism, which will serve more faithfully U.S. imperialism for its war preparations and provide the U.S. oil magnates with exclusive profits.

This has led many mines of South Korea to closure. And large numbers of coal mines were thrown out of work. Half the number of entire colliers are reported to be kicked out of their work places by the end of March this year.

The coal miners standing at the cross-roads of life and death are stubbornly waging a massive struggle under the slogans "We categorically oppose the switching over to oil policy," "We are hungry," "Government, take active measures for the livelihood of the coal miners."

★ In the Field of Textile Industry

Over 3,000 workers hired by various textile mills in the city of Pusan waged a struggle in demand of a 70 per cent increase of wage and the conclusion of collective contract since the closing days of last year. They organized on January 2 this year a "committee for measures for labour disputes" to promote their unity. On the other hand, they decided to call a general strike to meet their demands and downed tools and walked out simultaneously on February 15.

Meanwhile, upwards of 300 workers of the Yonghwa cloth and fishing net company in Taegu staged a sit-in struggle on January 14 demanding the payment of back wages amounting to over 2 million won. The following day they, defying the suppression by the puppet policemen, destroyed the storehouse of the company to wrest goods including cloth and fishing nets worth more than 2 million won for their pay.

★ In Other Fields

The struggle of workers is being staged in other industrial fields, too.

More than 15,000 workers and office employees in the field of communications have been waging a protracted struggle in demand of wage hike equivalent to the level of minimum living cost and the improvement of their treatment since November last.

The workers of the "Inchon heavy industry company" who entered into a labour dispute on January 22 this year fought in demand of a 50 per cent wage increase. And over 2,700 workers of the Pusan "Shipyard" have been waging a struggle since March 21 putting forth a four-point demand including pay raise.

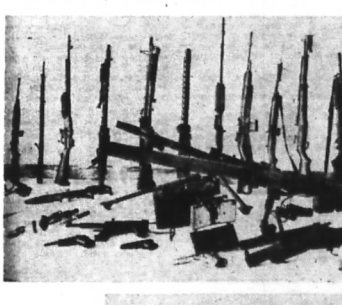
Workers in the fields of chemical industry and marine transportation, stevedores, transporters, workers of shoe shops, and printing workers and employees of restaurants are also fighting for the right to live and democratic rights.

The South Korean workers are expressing their readiness to fight to the end against the brutal fascist suppression by the U.S. imperialists and the Pak Jung Hi clique by further strengthening the unity and solidarity.

Pressed by the mounting struggle of the South Korean working class which commands the support of the people even the reptile "trade union" bodies of South Korea issued on March 5 a declaration that they "will all rise in a death-defying struggle for the existence" of one million workers unless the Pak Jung Hi clique give up at once the knavish plot which they are hatching to suppress the struggle of the workers of railway transport, communications and monopoly offices.

The workers' struggle which is expanding rapidly centering around the branches of South Korea's "key industries" since the beginning of this year is causing another terror and uneasiness to the U.S. imperialists and their stooges the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique who are greatly upset by the growth of the armed guerrilla struggle.

RI Jip



Weapons of the enemy's armed spies who were repulsed and wiped out in their attempt to raid the posts of our side

Various kinds of belongings carried by armed spies of the enemy to ferret out military secret of our side—different types of wireless and interception apparatuses, tape recorders, cameras, observation instruments, etc.

We Hail Triumphant Advance of Cuban Revolution

Recently the Revolutionary Government of Cuba has adopted a new measure for nationalisation of private trade. This step has touched off high revolutionary enthusiasm all over Cuba.

The measure taken by the Revolutionary Government of Cuba for the nationalisation of private trade constitutes another important advance in the Cuban revolution and, at the same time, a sledge-hammer blow to the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys opposing the Cuban revolution.

The recent measure is another clear example showing the decisive stand of the Cuban people to accomplish to the end the cause of socialism and communism in Cuba and the Marxist-Leninist sagacious leadership and the principled policies of the Communist Party and the Revolutionary Government of Cuba.

The Korean people whole-heartedly support the new struggle of the Cuban people for the nationalisation of private trade and express firm solidarity with them in their struggle.

The Cuban people have won freedom and independence through their arduous struggle against the class enemies at home and abroad. They have traversed the glorious path of struggle for defending their national dignity and revolutionary gains to the last and building the new society. They are now reliably advancing along the road of socialism.

The new measure of the Revolutionary Government of Cuba is of important significance in the struggle of the Cuban people for revolution and construction. It will make it possible to weed out the non-socialistic elements in trade and the political, counter-revolutionary elements relying on them, thus further perfect the socialist transformation of the relations of production, strengthen the political, ideological and moral unity of the Cuban people of all social strata and remove the foothold of the U.S. imperialists for anti-Cuban subversive and aggressive activities.

The new step will also eliminate the exploiting, parasitic elements which constituted an obstacle to socialist construction in Cuba and speed up the building of socialism and push forward the ideological and cultural revolutions.

All the achievements and victories scored by the Cuban people in revolution and construction clearly prove the sagacity of the leadership of the Communist Party and the Revolutionary Government of Cuba headed by Comrade Fidel Castro and the correctness of their policies and the vitality of their resolute revolutionary stand.

Comrade Kim Il Sung said as follows:

"The Communist Party of Cuba knows the Cuban question better than anyone else, and it is this Party and no one else that can map out correct policies to suit the actual conditions of Cuba. Any socialist country is duty bound to respect the policies pursued by the Communist Party of Cuba and support the struggle of the Cuban people."

The Communist Party of Cuba unwaveringly adheres to the Marxist-Leninist revolutionary principle, shapes independent and correct policies and successfully organises and mobilises the entire people to their execution. This constitutes a guarantee for all the victories of the Cuban people in revolution and construction. Invincible is the Cuban people who are enjoying the correct leadership of the Communist Party of Cuba.

The significance of the Cuban revolution is very great. The victory of the Cuban revolution is a continuation of the great October revolution in Latin America. And this is a historic event which has materialised socialism in the Western Hemisphere for the first time and thereby marked a new turning point in the revolutionary movement in Latin America.

Revolutionary Cuba represents the future of Latin America and her existence itself inspires the liberation movement of the peoples of this continent. This furnishes a clear proof that imperialism is sure to ruin in our time and the national liberation revolution and the people's revolution are sure to win.

It is an internationalist duty of all the socialist countries and the revolutionary peoples in Latin America, Asia and Africa and the rest of the world to fight to defend the Cuban revolution and safeguard the gains of the Cuban revolution.

With no machinations can the U.S. imperialists hamper the revolutionary cause of the Cuban people.

The Korean people resolutely support the heroic struggle of the Cuban people against U.S. imperialism and for socialist construction and do everything in their power to strengthen militant solidarity, friendship and unity with them.

The cause of socialism and communism of the Cuban people is ever-victorious and revolutionary Cuba will shine forever in the Western Hemisphere.

Cuban women take an active part in socialist construction

Members of Representation of Korean Committee for Promotion of International Trade Leave for France

Pak Gap Ryong, representative of the Korean Committee for the Promotion of International Trade, and other members of its representation to stay in the Republic of France left Pyongyang on March 27 by air.

Bang Tae Ryul, Acting-Chairman of the Korean Committee for the Promotion of International Trade and the functionaries concerned saw them off at the airport.

Contract on Opening Regular Line between Korea and Europe

A contract on a regular line linking various ports between Korea and Europe was signed on March 12 in Pyongyang between the Korean Foreign Transportation Corporation and the German Seereederei Shipping Company.

This agreement will be helpful toward developing marine transportation between the two corporations and further developing economic relations between Korea and Democratic Germany.

A contract on foreign shipping agency between the Korean Ocean Shipping Agency and the German Seereederei Shipping Company was also concluded.

Greetings to Senegalese People on Their National Day

On the occasion of the 8th anniversary of the independence of Senegal, the Korean people extend warm felicitations and greetings to the Senegalese people in their struggle against imperialism and colonialism and for the consolidation of national independence.

On April 4, 1960 the Senegalese people won the liberation and independence of the country, overthrowing the long-drawn cursed rule of the French colonialists through their brave struggle. This is the fruit of the struggle of the Senegalese people and their precious victory.

Since their independence, the Senegalese people have registered brilliant successes in liquidating the consequences of the colonial rule in all spheres of politics, economy and culture, developing national economy and national culture and in building a new life in their country.

The Senegalese people who have already carried out the "four-year plan for economic and social development" are now waging a vigorous struggle for laying the foundations of the national economy.

As a result, in the field of industry, new industrial enterprises such as oil refinery and textile mill have been built and the proportion of total industrial output value in the country's economy has grown markedly.

In the field of agriculture, big successes have been made through the active promotion of the work for manysided development of agriculture, mechanisation of farm work, land improvement, etc.

Fine achievements have been scored also in the training of native talents and other domains of education, culture and arts.

All these new changes that have taken place in Senegal are valuable fruits of the Senegalese people in their struggle for the independent development of the country.

The Senegalese government, having resolutely severed diplomatic and economic relations with Portugal, Southern Rhodesia and South Africa, is doing much towards strengthening the solidarity of the African peoples.

The people of Senegal are supporting the struggle of the oppressed peoples against imperialism and colonialism and for liberation and national independence.

Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great Leader of the 40 million Korean people, said as follows:

"The Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of our Republic positively support the peoples of all newly-independent countries in their struggle to consolidate national independence and bring about national prosperity. We shall continue to endeavour for the promotion of our relations of friendship and co-operation with newly-independent nations."

The peoples of Korea and Senegal, though separated from each other by a long distance, are closely bound together on the same front of struggle because of the community of their historical conditions and the common stand in their struggle against imperialism.

The Korean and Senegalese peoples are fighting against the U.S. imperialists and, at the same time, against the Pak Jung Hi clique of South Korea and the racialists of the Republic of South Africa and Southern Rhodesia—faithful lackeys of U.S. imperialism—who are scheming to undermine the anti-imperialist front and wreck the solidarity of the progressive peoples and oppressed nations of the world.

Greeting the national holiday of the Senegalese people, the Korean people sincerely wish them brilliant successes in their struggle against imperialism and colonialism and for the building of a new life.

D. P. R. K. Ambassador to Mauritania Presents Credentials

Choi Sang Muk, newly-appointed Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of our country to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, presented his credentials on March 13 to Moktar Ould Daddah, President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, according to a report from Nouakchott.

Present at the presentation ceremony from the Mauritanian side were Birane Mamadou Wane, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Mohamed Abdelahi Ould Elhassen, Director of the Office of the President; Moktar Haiba, Economic and Financial Councilor to the President; Moulaye Hassen, Chief of Protocol; Sambak Mara, General Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

After the ceremony, President Moktar Ould Daddah and Ambassador Choi Sang Muk had a friendly talk.

(Continued from Page 1)

In a Coal Mine

The colliers of the coal mine where Comrade Li Yong Gi works have raised the flames of increased production from the outset of the year with the burning desire to contribute to economic construction and defence upbuilding by putting out even one more ton of coal with the existing labour, installations and materials. They carried out by March 15 the quarterly plan for coal output which was set 40 per cent higher than the results in the corresponding period of last year. This means nearly twice as much anthracite as that in the same period of last year.

The Kim Yong Ho-led tunnelling platoon members who are working hard to boost production with a single mind to be loyal to the Party and the Leader, raised markedly the drilling speed and blasting efficiency through the introduction of advanced technique and advanced method of work.

A fresh upsurge took place in production as tunnelling was kept ahead and adequate coal beds were secured.

The coal mining platoon members led by Jong Jung Gyo and other colliers applied the advanced hewing method, thus increasing productivity 5 to 10 per cent. As a result, the output of ore doubled as against the same period of last year.

In a Cement Factory

The workers of the cement factory where Comrade Kim Jong Ho works overfulfilled their first quarterly year assignments by March 26.

The kiln operators who are well aware that to produce even one more ton of cement is meant to contribute to the struggle for increasing the country's economic power and defence capabilities, liberating South Korea and unifying the fatherland, have overfulfilled their daily quotas through the introduction of high speed calcining method.

PERSONAL LETTERS

of Crewmen of Captured Armed Spy Ship "Pueblo" of U.S. Imperialist Aggressor Army Addressed to Officials of U.S. Administration, U.S. Senators and Congressmen, Governors of States, and Their Families, Relatives and Friends

Letter from Captain of "Pueblo" Lloyd Mark Bucher to His Wife

Mrs. L.M. Bucher
Bahia Motor Hotel Rm 167
998 West Mission Bay Drive
San Diego,
California, USA 92101

My dearest darling wife,

I am writing this letter to help ease your worry about me and to describe my exact circumstance. Pueblo was not only an electromagnetic and oceanographic research ship but was also designed to conduct spying activities. We were spying on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea within their territorial waters when we were captured on 23 January. We were in the coastal waters of their country for 10 days prior to our capture. During that time we spied on their coastal radars and communications post. Altogether we detected about 130 radars and photographed some merchant shipping. I ordered the ship to intrude into the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on 5 occasions. We were captured within the territorial waters of the D.P.R.K. about 7 miles from Wonsan. Before the capture I ordered the ship's electronic equipment and classified documents destroyed. Some of them however were captured intact and the navigational records and my personal narrative proved beyond a doubt that we had indeed conducted spying missions as well as intrusions into the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. After the capture I sincerely confessed everything and then together with my officers and crew we wrote a letter of apology to the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and asked them for leniency. I tell you all this so you know exactly what I am involved in. I am completely responsible for our acts and am prepared for any punishment if it is given. However, we feel that our government is also responsible and before the Government of the D.P.R.K. will release us, they seem to rightfully insist that the U.S. Government admit our spying and illegal intrusions into their territorial waters and apologize for those acts and give assurance that they will not be repeated. I suggest that it would be helpful if you wrote to our U.S. Congressmen and Senators and asked them to help secure our release and swift return.

We are living in very fine quarters, quite similar to a navy boq, only in this case the halls and stairways are made from beautiful Korean marble. We are fed three times daily in a diningroom where I take my meals with my officers. I am provided with cigarettes, playing cards, chess, books and magazines.

Last week we received our first news from outside Korea since our capture. The American Red Cross informed us that Hagenson's wife had delivered a son on 9 February and that mother and baby were well. I am sure you will remember Hagenson's wife. She is the one you helped with their car in Bremerton. So it appears that some correspondence may be exchanged through the Red Cross. You should look into it.

I have some pictures of you and the boys here in my room and look at them many times each day, hoping that you are not worrying too much. Rose dear, you must take care of your health. Honey do not lose hope.

I hope all is well for you financially and that you are getting regular allotments. If not, contact the local naval authorities and explain the problem. I suggest you stay where you are for the present and hope for the best and my early return. I am writing the boys a separate letter and will give them some words of encouragement.

Flip and Phil Stryker each have some of my personal things, I suggest they hold on to them for the present.

You should cancel my membership to American Express explaining to them the circumstances. Also just prior to our capture I subscribed to Esquire magazine, you should notify them to send it to your address.

Rose darling, the most important thing for you is to take care of your health. That is my biggest worry, please honey, I need you to make life worth living. I miss you so very much.

Kiss each of my sons for me and when I return we will take a long vacation to a nice quiet place as soon as we have the opportunity.

Have Al Hemphell help you with the letters to speed our return.

Eternal Love,

Lloyd Mark Bucher

P.S. Looking at your picture sweet heart makes me realize what a beautiful girl I married, write soon.

Letter from Petty Officer 3rd Class Sidney Jerry Karnes to His Parents

Mr. Sidney J. Karnes
Route No. 2
Havana, Arkansas U.S.A.

Dear Dad, Mom and Barn,

I am writing this letter to you from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea where I and the rest of the crew of the U.S.S. Pueblo have been detained since the twenty-third of January. I have no idea what you have heard from the United States Government or have read so I will tell you in part, at least, what happened. Let me say, first of all, however, that I am very sorry for what has happened, but was only doing my duty as a member of the United States Navy, following the orders of those who were superior in rank to me. Providing all requirements are met by the U.S. Government, we should all be home. When, I have no idea. Again, I am very sorry — first of all for you — my beloved parents and my darling wife. I love you all so very, very much. I regret deeply my and your involvement in this, but it was out of my hands.

When we left Yokosuka, the Pueblo was under orders from Commander Naval Forces Japan to proceed to the East Sea off the Democratic People's Republic of Korea laden with top secret and below electronic equipment and publications to conduct acts of espionage against the D.P.R.K. On 23 January, Pueblo was captured by the Naval Forces of the Korean People's Army during the final of at least six intrusions deep into the territorial waters of this country. USS Pueblo was captured still possessing sufficient evidence to prove beyond a doubt that our act was that of espionage. This proof has been seen by all of the crew and confessions by all the officers which we all have confirmed make denial of our actions impossible.

At this time, we are being held as criminals. We have warm clothing, three meals a day and a warm room so you can see we are being shown a great amount of leniency. However, that doesn't change the seriousness of our crime. It is my own opinion that in order for us to be released, the United States Government must: (1) Admit to the actions of Pueblo, (2) Apologize publicly to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the world for these actions, and (3) Assure that acts of this nature will cease. As far as return, this is how it must be. Otherwise, we will remain here and will be punished for our acts in accordance with the laws of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and as you know well, espionage is not a minor misdemeanor but, is rather, a grave criminal act.

I hope all of you are in good health. I am fine. There is a doctor here every day to treat those who are ill. None of us have been mistreated in any way so you don't have to worry over me. We are all just hoping and praying that we can be reunited with our wives, families and friends very soon. I know, for myself, I miss all three of you so terribly much.

I want to ask you to contact some government officials, as I have already written a letter to Senator Fulbright, asking them to use their influence to obtain an apology to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea as that is one thing that, in my opinion, would be very helpful in effecting our release and return to the United States. In closing, once again, don't worry about me —any of you. I can feel much better knowing you aren't worrying so much. Anyway, Dad, Mom, Barn, take care of yourselves and pray for all of us—that we will all be together again soon. I hope to hear from all of you very soon.

With all my love forever,
Sidney Jerry Karnes

Letter from Steven E. Woelk, Electrician and Fireman, to His Parents

Mr. and Mrs. William Woelk
Box 198
Alta Vista, Kansas 66834
United States

Dearest mom and dad,

I suppose you have been wondering why I haven't been writing any letters to you. Well, all the crew members of the Pueblo are being held captive in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The reason being that we intruded deep into the territorial waters of the D.P.R.K. conducting espionage actions upon their country. This sure is a hack of a way to find out what the mission of the ship really is. We should be given a choice as to whether or not we would like to be stationed on this type of ship conducting these acts. If it hadn't been for the captain confessing our actions we would have all been sentenced to death. But since he did admit our fault and apologize to the D.P.R.K. Government, we are all being treated very well. Not as free as we would like to be, but very good for being prisoners.

We have not yet received word as to when we're to be released.

The captain, other officers and all of us members of the crew sent a joint letter of apology to the Government of the D.P.R.K. and also one to President Johnson asking him if he would send a letter to the government also.

This is where I think you could help me as well as the rest of the crew spend less time here. If you could write a letter to a Congressman, Senator or the Governor of Kansas or just any high official asking him to send a letter of apology to the Government of the D.P.R.K. This may help to set our release date up. Otherwise it will be delayed. The date will be delayed until the United States Government has completely apologized for sending this type of ship into the D.P.R.K. waters. We did commit a very serious crime and we still have to make up for it somehow. Apologies seems to be the easiest way.

During the time we were being captured there were a couple of us who received injuries. My wounds are healing very quickly. In fact I have just got one to go. The first week and 1/2 I was here, I spent with the crew but they moved me to a hospital where I could receive better care and be looked after better. Now I am just fine so don't worry about my health. As soon as that one wound heals up I'll be back in the running.

I must stop and tell you I have a couple of Korean girls looking over my shoulder. They can't see how I can write upside down and with the wrong hand. They've been trying all morning but just can't seem to get the hang of it.

My doctor here at the hospital is very nice to me. In fact all the people are nice. My doctor although he can't speak English still comes in and shoots the bull.

The main purpose of this letter is to let you know that I am alright and in good shape. Still a little sore but in good shape. It shouldn't take but a couple of weeks to get back to normal. So I hope you all don't worry about me too much.

It's hard to tell how much longer it will take until we're released. I hope it's just as soon as all the apologies have been made. It's just going to take time.

Mom you have a birthday this month, don't you? Well happy birthday if you do. I sure wished I didn't have to spend mine here but I guess I will.

Well, I've got to a close. Tell everyone Hi and that I'm OK.

With all my love

Steven E. Woelk

P.S. I'll be looking for your reply.

Letter from Petty Officer First Class Gerald William Hagenson to the U.S. Senate

Senate of the United States
Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

Gentlemen

This is a letter to you from a crewmember of the USS Pueblo (AGER-2), which was captured in the act of committing espionage against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, while within their territorial waters. This is a very serious crime in any country in the world as we now realize.

As a member of the engineering department on this ship I was not informed of the true mission of the ship. But I now realize that all crew members are equally guilty of this very grave act of provocation. Myself, I am truly sorry for the part I played in this very grave act.

As you the members of the United States Senate know, in our own country we have very stringent laws against this very thing. The Korean people of the Democratic People's Republic of

(Continued on Page 10)

Lloyd Mark Bucher, captain of the "Pueblo", captured armed spy ship of the U.S. imperialist aggressor army

(Continued from Page 9)

Korea have their own government, and laws, set up for the good of all their people. We of the Pueblo violated their laws when we many times intruded deep into the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and conducted our espionage activity. I have admitted to the acts which I helped to commit. We can do no more here. Even the I am truly sorry for the provocative acts I helped to commit. I feel that if the United States Government would give a sincere apology and positive assurance that this will not happen again to the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. then the people may view our case in a more favorable light, and allow us to return to our homes and families soon.

Since our capture, we have received very humanitarian treatment. We were given good warm clothes to wear, as our own were very thin. We have received three hot meals a day and have a warm room to sleep in, and a good clean bed, for which I am very grateful. Also we have hot showers and are clean shaven. Reading material and cards are also provided for us. Medical attention has also been provided.

In view of the terrible thing which we have done and regret so very much, we continue to receive very good treatment.

We earnestly hope due consideration of our case will be given by you, the esteemed members of the United States Senate. Thanking you for your time and consideration.

Gerald William Hangenson
POI US Navy Electricians mate
USS Pueblo (AGER-2)

Letter from David Lee Ritter, Radar Receiver Operator to Ronald Reagan, Governor of the State of California

To the Honorable Ronald Reagan
Governor, State of California
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, California
United States of America

Dear Governor Reagan,

Sir, in the past few months a U.S. naval vessel was captured in the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. That capture is the reason for this letter.

On the 5th of January 1968 the U.S.S. Pueblo (AGER-2) departed Yokosuka, Japan for the territorial waters, of the D.P.R.K. Embarked aboard was a 30 man special detachment from the U.S. Naval Security Group. The assignment of this detachment was to conduct surveillance and intelligence operations. The mission goals were to provide up-to-date information on military communication links; the locations, strength, and command organization of the Army, Navy and Air Force Units; location and function of radar sites.

It must be said here sir, that it was my job to intercept, analyze, and plot the location of all radar signals intercepted from the D.P.R.K. These signals were all recorded, and the tapes are now in the hands of the Korean People's Army.

On the 23rd of January 1968, and up to the time of our capture, I was on my position listening to signals from the patrol boats that participated in our capture.

Just prior to our capture our commanding officer announced emergency destruction. At this time our equipment and many top secret and secret documents were destroyed.

At the time of our capture we were exactly 7.6 miles from the coast of the D.P.R.K. By now we had entered the territorial waters of the D.P.R.K. six times, and all other activities are considered aggressive and hostile espionage.

After our capture we denied our acts in order to protect the honour of our country and government.

Later the Korean People's Army provided us with concrete proof of our espionage activities. We (the officers and men of the Pueblo) confessed to our crimes, for which we are deeply repentant.

The above, sir, is the background information necessary to bring you up to present problem, namely the return home of the ship's crew.

The only means for our release is for the U.S. Government to: 1) admit its aggressive espionage acts 2) apologize for its aggressive espionage acts and 3) assure the D.P.R.K. that such acts shall not happen again.

When these requirements are met, the Government of the D.P.R.K. will then consider our case favorably our repatriation to the U.S.

I and the crew live only on the mercy of the Korean Government. They are being very lenient to us for such a grave crime. I am provided with a clean bed, fed and clothed well and quite healthy.

I am writing to you, sir, the Governor of my home state, in hopes that you will use your influence to assist in making these facts known, and getting the present Administration to realize the denials are not my way home.

It would be appreciated if you would notify my parents that I am well and eager to return home.

The address is:
Caspar Clyde Ritter
171 Loyola
Manlo Park, California
94025
Sincerely yours
David Lee Ritter
POI USN
USS Pueblo (AGER-2)

Some of the crewmen of the "Pueblo," the armed spy ship of the U.S. imperialist aggressor army, who wrote personal letters

Letter from Seaman Steven Jay Robin to U.S. Senator Mendel Rivers

Senator Mendel Rivers
Democraf, South Carolina
Washington, D.C. U.S.A.

Dear Senator Rivers

My name is Steven Jay Robin, a member of the U.S. navy since July, 1964. I was a communication technician seaman aboard the USS Pueblo (AGER-2). I was trained at this specialty at the Naval Communications Training Center at Pensacola, Florida from September, 1964 to June, 1965. I was stationed at Naval Security Group Activity, Kamiseya, Janan from July, 1965 to March, 1967, where I operated communications electronics equipment. I received orders to the Pueblo and arrived on board April, 1967. My job was to operate electronics equipment, specifically ECM equipment in support of the captain.

The Pueblo had intruded about five or six times, deep into the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. At the time of our capture our charts and logs showed that we were about seven and six tenths (7.6) miles away from the coast of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The Pueblo was in these waters to collect specific intelligence information. My self along with five other members of the crew, was to identify, locate, and record all radar signals intercepted. We were to try to locate both known and unknown radar sites along the coast line of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Some of the radars intercepted were of the early warning and surface search type radars. At the time just before our capture I was on the flying bridge attempting to identify the types of radars that were on the ships that were operating about us. When it became evident that we were to be boarded the word was given by my superior officers to destroy all classified matter. After the word was given, I was handed some classified publications to burn, which I did. After I had finished burning these publications I went below to the research spaces and helped to destroy the material in there. I started throwing pager as soon as I got in there along with the rest of the research people. We had destroyed many pieces of important equipment and had started a lot of secret and top secret papers. At first, after we had just been captured, I had tried to conceal my criminal acts for fear of being treated severely. However, I at last confessed frankly and honestly of my crimes, because of the conclusive evidence that had been taken directly off of the ship. This evidence cannot be denied. The intruding of the Pueblo into the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the overt acts of espionage are very grave and serious crimes, and are to be considered as hostile acts of aggression against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

In our own country a person or group caught in the act of espionage is dealt with by trial. Here it is solely up to their government, and the penalty for espionage is very severe. They cannot just set us free. We, the crew and I, have admitted our crimes and have also apologized for them. But this is not enough. Our government must also admit that these acts of espionage were conducted and apologize to the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. And it must also give assurance that these provocative acts will not be repeated again.

The Korean People's Army caught us in the act of espionage while in their territorial waters. They have convincing evidence in their possession. We have admitted our crimes and have apologized to the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. I am asking for your aid and influence to help persuade our government to take necessary action as outlined in this letter to facilitate our return as soon as possible. I thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Yours very truly

Steven Jay Robin
Seaman communication technician
USN USS Pueblo (AGER-2)

Letter from Fireman John Charles Higgins, Jr. to U.S. Senator Stuart Symington

The Honorable Stuart Symington
United States Senator
Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C.

Honorable Stuart Symington: U.S. Senator;

I am a sailor from St. Joseph, Missouri, I was born and, raised in St. Joseph and plan on spending my life there.

In October 1965, I joined the Naval Reserve unit in St. Joseph. In January 1967, I left for my two year tour of active duty. After three weeks in transit on Treasure Island, I was assigned to the U.S.S. Pueblo (AKL-44) in San. Bremerton, Washington. She was undergoing conversion from AKL-44 to AGER-2.

While attached to the ship in Bremerton, I went to Shipfitter "A" School in San Diego, California. I was both shipfitter and damage controlman aboard the Pueblo. A part of my job was to weigh the 15lb. CO2 bottles aboard. When I was refused entrance to the space occupied by the Communications Technicians I suspected that they had an abundance of secret gear.

This set me to thinking about the ship's real mission. I knew, as did the rest of the crew, that there were too many antennas, CTs, and too much frett over security for the ship to be an AGER. From the name of the ship I figured that the ship collected geographical information for military use. From all the CTs aboard I figured the ship for a radar picket.

Before departing Sasebo, the captain gave a speech to the crew. In his speech he said quite a bit of nothing, generally known information, and only got one point across to me. He assured the whole crew that the ship wouldn't break any law. This said plain as day that we were to come very close to breaking the law. This was January 11.

Twelve days out of Sasebo, Japan, on January 23 we were captured by the army of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Since the ship was captured, I've learned the true mission of the ship I've heard the confessions of the captain and the other officers. I've seen navigational charts and records that prove we were within the territorial waters of the D.P.R.K. prior to and at the time of our capture.

I saw a map showing radar installations all over the D.P.R.K. which was taken from the ship. I talked to one of the men who worked with the map and learned that we were trying to locate other radar installations not shown on the map.

From the confessions of the officers and from documents from the ship, I learned that we were to photograph all vessels sighted and try to determine the size, maneuverability, and speed of each of them. We had a specific job to locate their submarine base and determine the number of submarines. As a cover-up mission, we were to take tests on the water: salinity tests; surface temperature and depth and condition of the bottom.

In short the U.S.S. Pueblo was caught red-handed engaging in espionage activities. Documents captured with the ship prove that there was top secret equipment aboard and give a detailed list of such equipment. The presence of such equipment and publications on the purpose and use of such equipment proves beyond any doubt that the U.S.S. Pueblo was and stands guilty of espionage against the D.P.R.K. and other countries.

The Korean people want an admission of responbility from the United States government, an apology for the aggressive acts of the U.S.S. Pueblo, and a promise that such acts will cease, both against the D.P.R.K. and against all socialist countries. Knowing their claims to be honest and true, I believe that they ask very little for eighty-two lives.

I beg you to please do everything in your power to get us out of here and back with our families again. It is futile to deny the facts when the D.P.R.K. has documents from the ship to support their claims in full. Please do all you can.

Personally, I would like to get back to St. Joseph and my family. I know that this is harder on them than it is on me. They are using their imaginations as to how I am being treated and such. If I get out of this, I'll do everything in my power to see to it that this never happens to me again. I'm sorry I had anything to do with the U.S.S. Pueblo and her mission.

In consideration of the charge against me and the fact that it is so obviously true, I am being treated very well. I have a bed and clean linen in a heated room. I am fed three times a day, am exercised twice a day, and am given access to medical facilities once each day.

Please notify my parents that you have received this letter, so they won't worry quite so much. My home address is as follows:

Mr. and Mrs. John Charles Higgins
6309 South Third Street
St. Joseph, Missouri 64504

Sincerely

John Charles Higgins, Jr.
Fireman, USN, USS Pueblo (AGER-2)

Letter from Seaman Apprentice Richard J. Rogala to U.S. Senator Charles Percy

The Honourable Charles Percy
United States Senator
Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C.

Dear Senator,

I am a sailor aboard the USS Pueblo that was captured by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Since being captured by the Korean people, I have realized how wrong the United States Government was in sending us on such a mission. I have seen numerous documents that prove the United States was guilty of espionage. The map in which our navigator used showed that we intruded in D.P.R.K. territorial waters on six different occasions. Another fact shows that our ship was to collect electro and radar magnetic waves from numerous ports in D.P.R.K. I also saw top secret information of our ship and similar ships which were to perform these acts of aggression. In these documents it is clearly stated that the United States planned to conduct these missions also in the Soviet Union and China. I have heard the confessions of our officers. I have also learned that our photographer took pictures of ships movements. On our ship we had two oceanographic research operators. They were to take temperature and samples of water to determine the feasibility of submarine operations in this area. Mr. Percy, these are only a few of the facts in which the United States was guilty of espionage.

On September 1, 1966 I was sworn into the United States Navy Reserve at the Naval Armory,

(Continued on Page 11)

(Continued from Page 10)

Chicago, Illinois. By taking this oath I swore to defend my country even if it meant death. As military men, our 83 crew members carried out the orders of our government.

The Korean people have been lenient with us so far. They have fed us well and have given us a good place to live. In my opinion, the United States should (1) stop these aggressive acts on them and other countries, (2) apologize for this crime of espionage.

I am asking you sir to persuade the Johnson Administration to apologize for this crime. This is the only way in which I may return to my country and see my parents again.

Please, notify my parents when you receive this letter. My home address is:

Mr. and Mrs. Chester Rogala
8138 Farnsworth Dr.
Niles, Illinois 60648
Sincerely yours,

Richard J. Rogala/SA
United States Navy
USS Pueblo (AGER-2)

Letter from Chief Petty Officer CTC James Francis Kell to U.S. Senator George Murphy

Honorable George Murphy
United States Senate
Washington, D.C.

My dear Senator Murphy,

I am an official resident of the State of California and also, at present, a member of the crew of the USS Pueblo which was captured by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The simple fact is that the Pueblo intruded into the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and committed acts of espionage by collecting intelligence.

We, the crew, are extremely anxious to return to our loved ones. We signed a letter of apology to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea which indicated our deep and sincere regret for committing these acts of espionage against them. We feel that our sincerity will reflect favorably upon the consideration being given our case by the D.P.R.K.

Another factor which I feel would have an influence upon our case would be a sincere apology by the leaders of our government and a genuine promise never to commit these acts of espionage again.

This last factor is the purpose of my letter. I'm asking you, as my representative in the Senate, to do everything in your power to persuade our Administration to apologize to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. I want to stress that only after our government has apologized, will our case be given any consideration by the D.P.R.K.

Family separation is never a good thing. There are 82 families who are suffering because the crew of the Pueblo is being detained. Personally, I am longing to see my wife and four children again. I know you can understand this since you too are a family man. Put yourself in my place mentally and I am sure you'll understand.

You have my permission to use parts of all of this letter for whatever you deem necessary.

Sincerely yours
James Francis Kell
Chief Petty Officer CTC
United States Navy

Letter from Lawrence William Mack, Photographer to Dean Rusk, U.S. Secretary of State

Mr. Dean Rusk
U.S. Secretary of State
Washington, D.C.
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Rusk

My name is Lawrence W. Mack, and I was a crew member on the USS Pueblo.

I am writing this letter in regards to that affair, and to state that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has incontrovertible proof that the ship was engaged in espionage activities against their nation. The captain and other officers involved have made full confessions, and all the crew members have signed a letter of apology to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

I, along with my shipmates, was shown secret and top secret documents and other materials such as charts, records and log books with navigational positions showing that the ship did, on several occasions, enter the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and conduct espionage activities.

Just before our capture, and by order of the commanding officer, I threw in to the sea important equipment that was used for espionage purposes. I also burned some secret materials, but some secret and top secret materials and documents are now in the possession of the Korean People's Army.

I denied the mission of the ship at first, because I felt it was my military duty to do so, and also because I feared the punishment connected with the charge of espionage, but the evidence showing the ship's activities was so conclusive that, in the face of it, I had to admit the truth, as further denials would have been senseless.

I have a wife and four children, sir. I am very lucky to have had thirty-four years of fruitful life. Some of my shipmates being held here have just entered their twenties, but if a man is thirty-four or twenty, or any age he wants to live and see his loved ones again, I would feel very wronged, and so would my shipmates if our future was squandered by denying the obvious, namely, that the Pueblo was, in fact, engaged in espionage activity against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The crew of the Pueblo is anxious to return home, but we will be detained in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea until an official apology is made, and a firm guarantee that further espionage activities will cease against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

I hope that the United States of America will solve this problem promptly.

Respectfully yours,

Lawrence William Mack
Photographer 1st Class
USN USS Pueblo
(AGER-2)

Letter from Policarpo Polla Garcia, Store Keeper to U.S. Government

The Government of the United States
United States of America

It has been about 50 days of our capture by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. We have been held for espionage and entering their territorial waters. I didn't realize this hostile act toward the Democratic People's Republic of Korea until we heard our commanding officer's confession and beside that, we heard the confessions of our executive officer, research officer and operations officer.

And also I saw documents belonging to our ship USS Pueblo (AGER-2), such as charts, maps and top secret documents, I heard that we entered on several times the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

While we are in here, they have furnished all the things we need, such as clothes, linens, toilet gear, and we eat three times daily. They show us lenience in every way.

I hope the Government of the United States will admit the hostile act we did to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Because of this crime that we committed to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea my family is suffering right now and so am I.

I sincerely apologize to Korea, and I hope that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea will forgive us and send me back to my family as soon as possible with the help of the United States of America.

Respectfully yours

Policarpo Polla Garcia
Store Keeper 1st Class
USN
USS Pueblo (AGER-2)

Letter from Cook Ralph E. Reed to Governor of Pennsylvania State

Governor
Office of the Governor
Harrisburg Pennsylvania
U.S.A.

Dear Governor:

I am a resident of Pennsylvania and a member of the crew of the USS Pueblo which was captured by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Our ship intruded into the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on six occasions for the purpose of collecting intelligence on the D.P.R.K. None of the crew can deny the facts as our documents were captured. In fact we all signed a letter of apology to the D.P.R.K. signifying our sincere regret for committing acts of espionage against them.

I'm asking you to use your influence, as Governor of my State, to persuade our Government leaders to sincerely apologize to the D.P.R.K. for sending the Pueblo to their country for the purpose of espionage. I feel that this apology will have a beneficial effect upon the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea when they decide on my fate.

I am very anxious to return to my home in Duncannon to see my son. A boy shouldn't grow up without a father. Again I ask for your help.

Sincerely
Ralph E. Reed
CS3 U.S.N.

Letter from Norman William Spear, Fireman Apprentice, to U.S. Government

To the United States Government
Washington, D.C. United States of America

This letter is being written in behalf of all of the crew members and their families as well as for myself.

As you know, we the crew of the USS Pueblo are being detained by the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on the charge of espionage. This charge, as you well know, is a very serious one.

The truth of this charge has been proven to me by all of the documents and other secret papers that were seized when our ship was captured.

This evidence, plus all of our navigational charts along with the confessions of the officers and crew, has made it very clear to me that our ship violated the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on six separated occasions to commit acts of espionage. There is no way in the world for anyone to deny these facts as being true in the light of all of the evidence that has been revealed. I cannot understand why the United States Government has not admitted to what we were doing.

Since our capture on the 23rd of January, we have been treated well. We are being fed every day. We have also been given a clean bed in which to sleep at night. We have also been given warm clothing to wear. We are allowed to wash ourselves daily and are permitted to bathe every week.

Those members of the crew who were injured when our ship was captured have been given medical aid and are fast returning to good health.

One man was killed and three others were wounded when our ship was captured. I cannot, in my own mind, believe that our mission was worth all of the pain and agony that the wounded have been through. Also, I cannot see how it was worth a man's life.

There is much to be said for our families, waiting for us at home. Their pain, heart-break and sorrow must be very great indeed.

They are the innocent people who are being hurt through no fault of their own, as a result of our acts of espionage.

I see in the faces of the men around me, my fellow shipmates, none of the joy and happiness which was once there. All that I now see is pain, sorrow and uncertainty. This tells of troubled minds.

We all feel that there is much in our past lives that must be changed in the future. I know that there is much in my life that must be changed. There is no way in which the past can be undone for no one can do that. We must try to make up for our past by making sure that our future lives are lived in a much better way.

There are many things that I have done which I should not have. There are many things which I have neglected too long to my great sorrow.

But, as I have said before, the past is in the past and can be changed in no way at all. All that we can do is try to make up for our past indiscretions by our future actions.

We must now plead for the chance to return to our homeland to be with our families and loved ones who mean so much to us.

It is only through the generosity of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, that we may be returned to our own country. We all could have been shot at once on the charge of espionage.

In order to help us to return to our homeland, the government of the United States should admit that the USS Pueblo (AGER-2) was captured while conducting acts of espionage while inside the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

This would be a great factor in our safe return home to our loved ones. It would help us to realize our hopes and dreams for the future.

I humbly ask you our leaders for a return chance to return home to start our lives anew. This would also bring to an end, all of the pain, suffering and heart-break that our families and loved ones are undergoing at this time.

It seems to be a small thing indeed, for the government of the United States to do in the light of all the good that it would do for so many. It would help to end not only our suffering but that of the loved ones of the crew at home in the United States. Their suffering is the worst for it is not caused by anything that they are responsible for.

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Some of the crewmen of the "Pueblo," the armed spy ship of the U.S. imperialist aggressor army, who wrote personal letters

(Continued from Page 11)

In closing this letter, I ask you to take into consideration not only us but our parents, wives, children, and friends. All that is left for us here is hope and a firm belief in the future.

Yours truly
Norman William Spear
Enlisted 2 fireman apprentice, USN
USS Pueblo (AGER-2)

Letter from Robert J. Chicca, Radio Interceptor, to U.S. President

To the President of the United States
White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir,

This is a letter appealing for your help in returning to the United States and home. I am SGT Robert J. Chicca, a navy member to the crew of the Pueblo.

As I am sure you already know, the USS Pueblo has been captured by the Navy of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea while conducting espionage in the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

I must admit that we are now being treated much better than I had expected upon being captured. I was wounded, and my wound is being treated also. I am writing this letter asking your help in getting us back to the United States and home.

The D.P.R.K. army has in their possession various verified papers, documents, the captain's log, charts and position records taken from the ship. These all testify to the fact that we entered the territorial waters of the D.P.R.K. on at least 6 occasions while conducting espionage acts. They have conclusive proof, and in the light of the evidence that I have seen, denial of the crime of the Pueblo's espionage is impossible.

We have been shown the documents and other evidence mentioned above and they are valid, as further proof, we were allowed to listen to the valid, confessions of the captain and the other knowledgeable officers stating the espionage mission of the ship. The rest of the crew and myself admitted the crime we had committed and signed the joint letter of apology to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea Government. The situation spoke for itself and I admit my guilt and participation in the crimes. Although we were just following orders as servicemen, we must also be partly responsible for the acts of espionage committed by the Pueblo.

The date of our repatriation depends largely on the attitude taken by our government to the entire Pueblo incident. I am asking for an apology and a statement that such acts will not be repeated from my government for our early repatriation.

I am asking for your help. I am asking you to please do your best to get us all back to the United States and home, soon.

Sincerely,

Robert Joseph Chicca
SGT U.S.M.C.
Radio Interceptor
USS Pueblo (AGER-2)

Letter from Don Earl Pailey, Teletype Operator, to U.S. Senator Vance Hartke

The Honorable Vance Hartke
United States Senator
Senate Office Building
Washington D.C.

Dear Senator Hartke

I am a sailor in the U.S Navy and I was ordered aboard the U.S.S. Pueblo (AGER-2) on the 3rd of Jan. 1968 while it was in port Yokosuka Japan.

On the 5th of Jan. 68 we sailed for Sasebo Japan and arrived on the 9th of Jan. 68. On the 11th of Jan. 68 we set sail for the east coast of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to participate in aggressive acts of espionage in the territorial waters at various positions.

For the next 12 days we sailed on as scheduled making six intrusions deep into the waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the purpose of obtaining electromagnetic intelligence with the use of various electronic equipment. We intercepted radar signals and located radar sites of the D.P.R.K. and as a part of this espionage mission I carried out my assigned duties as a teletype operator operating the receivers and crypto gear connected with the teletype.

On the 23rd of Jan. the U.S.S. Pueblo and its crew was caught. At the time we were just 7.6 miles from the coast of the D.P.R.K. Also at this time we were placed under arrest by the naval units of the D.P.R.K's army. After we were captured by the Korean People's Army we were taken to the port for our detention. At first I tried to deny the crimes of espionage because I wanted to protect the honor of the United States. Also I was afraid of the punishment that I could get from so serious crime as this.

After a few days I was provided with such concrete evidence such as viewing documents that contained navigational charts showing the six points of entry into the territorial waters of the D.P.R.K., also other messages that left no doubt to the fact that we were on an espionage mission. Also I listened to the confessions of all the officers of the Pueblo. So with all of the facts I have admitted the crime and confessed to the Government of the D.P.R.K.

It would be very ridiculous for the Government of United States to deny this hostile act against the D.P.R.K. in view of all the evidence.

Now that I have confessed for being a member of this espionage party I very deeply repent for my actions. Therefore all the facts the United States Government can not deny any longer the mission of the U.S.S. Pueblo and must confess to this acts of aggression against the D.P.R.K. I know that if the D.P.R.K. Government sees fit to return us to our homes I will never be a part of anything like this again.

I just want to try and take care of my family and raise them in a honest way and make honest adults of them. And I can not do that at this time being apart from them.

The D.P.R.K. Government has been very lenient with us and understand our position as military men. The United States Army has given us a warm place to stay and a warm bed and three meals a day also they have let us have free usage of the radio and provided us with the necessary toilet articles to help keep us in good health.

I beg of you to do everything in your power to bring this to the attention of the people, of the United States and persuade the government to take a very humble view of this act of aggression and assure it will never happen again so the other men may not be put in such a serious position as the men of the Pueblo at this time.

I very sincerely hope you can help us with this matter and use your influence to do so. Also I ask that you notify my parents upon receipt of this letter. My parents address follows.

Chester A Bailey
339 West Fourth St.
Ridgeville Indiana

Very Sincerely
Don Earl Bailey
Petty Officer First Class
United States Navy
USS Pueblo (AGER-2)

Letter from Oceanographer Dunnie Richard Tuck, Jr. to the Armed Forces Committee of the U.S. Senate

To Armed Forces Committee
Senate of the United States of America
Washington, D.C.

Dear Gentlemen:

I was a civilian oceanographer aboard the USS Pueblo at the time of its capture by the Korean People's Army in the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. I am writing to discuss certain facts which I consider pertinent in analyzing the Pueblo incident.

As the world knows by now from evidence disclosed by the D.P.R.K. the Pueblo was patrolled by the navy to the coastal waters of Korea to engage in electronic and oceanographic espionage. I, along with one cohort, was responsible for conducting that part of the mission dealing with oceanographic data collection. Specifically, my mission involved oceanic research which would aid naval operations in the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Secondarily, my activities were considered as a safeguard to cover the primary mission of the ship—that of electronic espionage. The Pueblo had patrolled off the coast of Korea for ten days before its capture 7.6 miles off the coast in the vicinity of Wonsan. The territorial waters of the D.P.R.K. were violated on several occasions by our ship in order to carry out the assigned espionage mission.

I regret that such a mission was initiated and naively feel that acts of espionage in the territorial waters of an independent country constitutes a provocative act against the sovereignty of that country. The Pueblo crew and I have apologized for our participation in the acts of espionage and intrusion against the D.P.R.K. However, the case is not between the crew members and the Government of the D.P.R.K., but between our government and the Government of D.P.R.K. Before the Pueblo incident can be settled, our government will have to realize that a wrongful crime has been committed. Upon admission to the act of espionage and intrusion, an apology would seem proper to right this wrongdoing. In order for the government to express deep sincerity, an assurance must be given that such hostile acts of aggression will not be repeated in the future. If the government responds as suggested, then the D.P.R.K. will possibly handle our case in a favourable manner.

I hope that by writing this letter and explaining the facts as the D.P.R.K. knows them, the Senate will be in a better position to judge the Pueblo incident as it really exists. All of us of the Pueblo beseech the members of the United States Senate to exert your influence upon the responsible officials and persuade the Administration to consider our case as soon as possible.

Yours very truly,

Dunnie Richard Tuck, Jr.
Oceanographer on the
USS Pueblo (AGER-2)

Letter from Operations Officer F. Carl Schumacher Jr. to His Parents

Mr. and Mrs. F. Carl Schumacher
9 Southmoor,
Saint Louis, Missouri 63105 U.S.A.

Dear mother and father

I thank God for the chance to write you and let you know that I am alright. Since our capture I know how much you have been worrying. Please put your minds at ease, as we have been treated very well. I do not know if you have seen any of the pictures they took of us, but if you have, as I hope, then you can tell that we have not been mistreated in any way.

We are in rooms in a warm, clean building—all the officers have rooms to themselves. The officers get together for morning and evening exercises and sometimes during the day for talks with the officer in charge of our detention. It is good to see them all again.

For the first three weeks I did not see anybody. This was while I was preparing my confession and being interrogated. Actually the confession was mere a test of our sincerity and honesty because they captured our reports and files and knew full well why we were in their territorial waters and what we were doing. After all the officers had written and recorded our confessions they were released to the public. I imagine you have heard mine.

After three weeks we had a press conference which was enjoyable. This was the first time all the officers were together since our arrest. Again many pictures were taken, which I hope you have seen. Since the press conference they have let the officers get together on more occasions which really does help our morale.

All of the officers and men realize now what a stupid and illegal act we were involved in. We all think that what we did was morally wrong and a crime against the Korean people. We are criminals caught red-handed in the act. We have written a formal letter of apology to the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea which they have accepted. They are a pretty humane people. They realize we were only following orders.

I feel slightly as if I were a pawn in a chess game, except that it is no game but my life which is at stake.

I feel particularly sorry for the crew. More than half of them had no idea where we were or what we were doing and all of this has come as quite a shock to them. Most of us are in our twenties and have full lives ahead of us. I personally feel that if I should die now my life would have been a complete waste. There are so many things that I have left undone or unsaid—mostly small things that could mean an awful lot to someone. I have never told you all how very much I love you and I don't think I have ever properly shown this to you.

I promise that if I come back I will!

I want to come home very very much. This is understandable — all of us do. So far during my detention I have thought of everyone I know and just about everything I've done. My life has been very fortunate and I am thankful that now at least I know how grateful I should have been. When I return we will have to sit down and discuss at length what I should do to really make my life a useful and constructive one. I don't want to waste my life on stupid adventures like this one—this I know for sure. But I think my future is something we should all discuss together.

Some days I am pessimistic, some days optimistic. I think we have done everything we can to create conditions for our return. Now that we know what we were up to and what it means to the Koreans and what it means to face death and separation, none of us will ever repeat our actions. Just the thought of what it does to you is enough to make me stay at home forever.

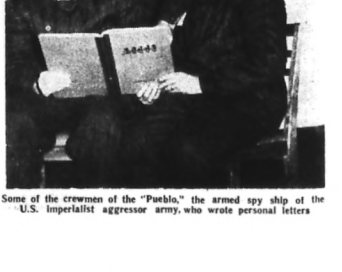
I really do feel that the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea will let us return if the United States will only admit and apologize for our actions. The United States, I am sure, cannot deny the facts of our espionage and intrusions for long. The evidence recovered from our ship shows conclusively that we intruded six times, once as far as 7.6 miles from land. I feel confident that they are trying very hard to work out a settlement. I only hope that it will come quickly.

It is especially gnawing not to know what is going on. This bothers me, but I think that it will all work out. Since I have been here I have come to realize how much the Koreans hate the United States. This bothers me because it makes negotiations difficult. But we and our country are criminals in this case and have no choice.

I know that you have been doing everything you can to hasten a settlement. Please continue. I am sure that you have written letters, made phone calls and sent telegrams to Washington — just keep it up until I return. I am certain that Congressman Curtis and Senator Symington are working in our favor — I pray that they will be successful.

Without any news from home I picture things just as they were when I left. I hope grandma is fully recovered and I feel terribly sorry for bon bonne to lose another crisis. Please tell all of my friends and the rest of the family that I think of them very much. They returned some photographs from the ship and I have some pictures from Christmas that I took at Also—mother, you will remember that girl who called from Chicago — MOUSE — if

(Continued on Page 13)



Some of the crewmen of the "Pueblo," the armed spy ship of the U.S. imperialist aggressor army, who wrote personal letters

(Continued from Page 12)

you hear from her please tell her that I am thinking of her and want very much to see her again. Her full name is Clara Bates Vanderzee Jr., and she now lives in San Francisco. I don't have her address but she should be in the phonebook, and I would appreciate it if you could get in touch with her.

I pray that you are all well and hope by this letter that you will know of my safety. I depend on your help and that of our government to win a swift settlement for my return. I long to be back with you again. I hope that you will answer this letter!

All my love

F. Carl Schumacher Jr.

Letter from Executive Officer Edward Renz Murphy to His Wife

Mrs. Carol Danks Murphy
Department Mail Section
In C/O Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California
Ship Code 96662

Dearest Carol and Eddie,

I have prayed continuously and know that God has been your direction and strength during this experience. He has certainly been mine.

Needless to say, I miss you very much. I am looking forward to the day when the governments agree upon our return. I promise you, Eddie, and shoop-shoop a very rich family life, perhaps around St. Louis.

As far as we know our return is waiting upon the United States government to admit our crime, our intrusions, offer guarantee not to happen in future, and sincerely apologize. All of this we, the crew, have already done and do sincerely repent for the crimes we committed against these people. This act was a menace to their peace and encroachment upon their sovereign rights, and should be condemned. To tell the truth at the time of our capture we couldn't destroy all our equipment or material in time so these became insurmountable evidence against us. Also we were 7.6 miles from the coast of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, last of the intrusions we made on several occasions.

Our care here has been humanitarian. However, our detention becomes more difficult with each passing moment of separation from all our loved ones.

I hope that you might have some contact with the Navy by now so that your needs are being cared for. Please purchase all your needs. We will have to set aside some money to restock our locker. Perhaps you've already done so, but I want to remind you to inform all our creditors of my situation and ask for new account numbers since all of these were also lost. Ask for Navy legal assistance regarding income tax and other such matters.

Please inform mom, Mary and Anne that I am not harmed. I do hope that all of you will continue your prayerful support, especially with regard to our government. We can't explain our action, but I hope by now you and our government have seen photographs of all the evidence. I never had any idea we had all that material.

We all try our best to act and think positive. However, our greatest uneasiness is due to the fact that we have done all we can at this end and are now awaiting quick positive action in our behalf. We do hope that you all have been kept informed of the progress toward our release. We long for our return.

Perhaps showing this letter to the Navy may help them understand the real facts at the time of capture. Especially if they were to know that the charts, logs and records clearly show our numerous intrusions into their waters. I wish I could personally show this evidence because I'm positive it would erase any doubt as to our guilt of the crime of espionage for which we are detained.

Honey, I know God's care is with you and our family. I am most regretful for all the trouble and anxiety which I have caused you and everyone else. I hope that I very soon will be able to rejoin you and correct all this displeasure. I feel your "constant faith and abiding love" with me always.

Am anxious to receive your reply.

All my love

Ed

Letter from Petty Officer First Class Norbert John Klepac to His Wife

Mrs. Helen Klepac
Department Mail Section
C/O FPO
San Francisco, California
96662 U.S.A.

Hi Hon,

I guess the Pueblo's incident came quite a shock to you. I am in good health, as I hope you are the same.

By now you have heard about the Pueblo was conducting espionage activities. The ship was captured by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in their territorial waters.

I have been shown secret documents, maps, position record log, and charts which had the ship's positions we have taken from the ship. All this provides that the Pueblo conducted espionage, and that it intruded into the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on many occasions. I also heard the confessions of the captain and three other officers.

We have jointly apologized to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for our espionage activities.

I have been treated well and hope to return someday. We exercise morning and in the afternoon eat three times a day and sleep eight hours, also medical care when needed.

But we want to go home as soon as possible. Since the United States Government is responsible for this incident it is necessary that the United States Government takes sincere attitude for our return home. United States should confess to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and apologize for espionage activities.

We will be detained here until a firm guarantee that such activities will not happen again. This must be solved by the United States Government. You can help by writing along with me to the Secretary of State or Governor of Texas and help solve this promptly.

I hope the boys are not giving you much trouble. Give them my regards.

I'll close for now. Take care of yourself and the boys. I am waiting a reply from you. My address is Norbert Klepac, Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Love

Norbert John Klepac

Letter from Seaman Edward Stuart Russell to Senator Kechel of the State of California

Honorable Senator Kechel
of the
State of California,
United States of America

Dear honorable Senator Kechel,

I, Edward Stuart Russell, write this letter on the behalf of myself and the 81 other crew members of the United States' ship Pueblo. In it I wish to inform you, to the best of my ability, of the nature of our capture, confinement and the conditions concerning our repatriation.

As members of the United States Navy we were sent on a mission to gather information concerning the internal security and defences of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Since our capture we have learned, by visual evidence consisting of top secret documents, maps and charts and the confessions of our officers, this fact. We now know that we were operating within the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. I would like to restate this fact, it has been proven beyond any doubt that we operated in their waters not by accident, but by design. The captured logs of our ship have been used to plot our positions charts for the proof of our violations. These charts were prepared by our navigator Lt. J.R. Murphy and have been authenticated by our captain, CDR. L.M. Bucher. The authorities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea presented captured documents to us, so that we might come to know the true nature of our ship, which to myself and many others, was unknown until this presentation.

These documents consisted of the already mentioned position logs and charts. They were more than enough to prove that our ship had gone into the territorial waters of the D.P.R.K. to commit hostile acts. To deny the true nature of our ship in the face of such evidence would be sheer folly. Therefore, we have to a man confessed our criminal acts and prostrated ourselves before the Korean people asking for mercy.

The authorities have been more than just, not only have they given us humane treatment far in excess of that stated in the Geneva accords but they wish us to return to our loved ones. It is my belief that the government admits its responsibility in this matter, apologizes for these crimes and grant the D.P.R.K. assurances that these acts are never again to be repeated, we will be granted clemency. I feel that these demands are not unjust, in fact it is my belief that they are more than fair.

It is my desire in writing this to you to inform you of these facts as they have been presented to me. We violated the D.P.R.K.'s territorial waters, they have the ship and we, 82 Americans, will remain here until our government meets the just demands made of it.

Now that you know the truth concerning our capture, the charges against us, our confinement and the conditions regarding our repatriation, I simply ask of you to do what is right. It is my earnest desire that the men of the USS Pueblo may return to our homes and country.

Respectfully yours,

Edward Stuart Russell

Cal Delta 1964 956

Letter from Seaman Stephen Paul Ellis to His Family

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Ellis
4023 Saw Telle Blvd.
Los Angeles, California
United States of America

Dear mother, father, Mike, and Mark,

I know you have been worrying very much about me so let me quickly say I am in good health and am being treated very well. I feel you have the right to know just what has happened to me and I will not leave anything out. I am writing to you not only to stop your worrying but also in the hope you may help me return home as soon as possible which is what I dearly want.

As you already know my ship the USS Pueblo was captured on January 23, 1968 by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Their government is now allowing us to write to you so we can explain our situation.

Myself and the crew of the USS Pueblo have been accused of intruding into the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and of conducting espionage activities in these waters. Since our capture we have seen for ourselves a great deal of evidence which proves that we are guilty as charged.

First, there were many official documents found on the ship which described in detail the schedule and purpose of our mission. We were allowed to read and study these documents for ourselves. They described in detail that our true purpose off the coast of the D.P.R.K. was to obtain intelligence information about the Army and Navy of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The documents also show we invaded their territorial waters. Our ship's position notebook was found and our navigation officer has verified its correctness. He showed us on a map the exact points where the Pueblo had been sent off the coast of the D.P.R.K. The map showed that we had come as close as 7.6 miles off their coast which is a direct violation of their territorial waters.

Secondly, we have heard the direct confessions of our captain, executive officer, research officer, and operations officer which verified the statements found in the documents. They all told us sincerely that our mission off the coast of the D.P.R.K. was to collect intelligence information about the Army and Navy of the D.P.R.K. through electro-magnetic instruments. It was our mission to identify and count the number of ships in the Korean Navy and to try and find out how many submarines they possessed.

In the face of such overwhelming evidence, myself and my crewmembers have admitted our guilt. We are deeply sorry for the crimes we have committed against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and have all signed a joint letter of apology asking them to forgive us and promising them never to commit such crimes again.

The Korean Government realizes that there were many of us on the crew that committed our crimes unconsciously without knowing the true nature of our mission. Because of this fact and because we are fellow human being of the Korean Government is treating us very humanely. But it is also true that we are soldiers and we must also share part of the guilt. We feel that since it was our government and high military leaders that sent the Pueblo into Korean waters for espionage purposes that it is also necessary for our government to admit its guilt and to apologize to the people of the D.P.R.K. for its crimes. In my opinion an apology from our government will show the Korean Government that we are sorry for our crimes and will open the door for our speed return home which is what we all want.

All the statements I have made are the truth. I hope that you will all write to the important people of our government so they may take our case to Washington. The more people who hear about our situation and who believe our government should apologize the better it will be for us and will speed up our return home. The crew and myself are all hoping our government will make a speedy apology.

As I have said, mom and dad, don't worry about my health. We receive three good meals a day, regular shaves and showers, and clean linen and clothes. I have not been wounded, injured, or mistreated in any way, and we exercise daily to keep in good condition. The crewmembers and myself are deeply grateful to the D.P.R.K. for their kind and humane treatment.

Mother and father, you know how much I miss you both and want to go home to you and live my life in peace and freedom. I worry about you both very much and hope that your health and your mental outlook is good and remains good until my return home. I am always happy when I think of how wonderful it will be to sit down together with you all once again. Mike, I hope your studies are going well and I am looking forward to seeing you soon. Mark, if you are married I wish both much happiness and look forward to camping with you soon. Mother and father I think about you often and realize more and more how lucky I am to have such wonderful parents who have always given me the love I needed. You shall always be in my thoughts until I return home. I love you both very much. Tell all my friends, relatives, and two wonderful grandmothers that I am well and look forward to seeing them soon.

All my love to my wonderful family,

Stephen Paul Ellis

P.S. I shall be looking forward to your return letter.

Letter from Fireman Howard Edward Bland to Ronald Reagan, Governor of the State of California

Governor Ronald Reagan
State Capitol Building
Sacremento, California.
U.S.A.

Dear Governor Reagan:

As you know by now the entire crew of the USS Pueblo (AGER-2) was captured by the Korean People's Army of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on 23 January 1968. The reason for our

(Continued on Page 14)

One of the crewmen of the "Pueblo," the armed spy ship of the U.S. imperialist aggressor army, who wrote personal letters

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capture was for the intrusion of their territorial waters and for espionage conducted against their country.

The Korean People's Army has in their possession charts and operational orders taken from the USS Pueblo (AGER-2) upon capture. The charts show where the USS Pueblo (AGER-2) upon six occasions entered the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The operational orders state that the USS Pueblo (AGER-2) was to conduct espionage activities against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

With such concrete evidence in their possession the United States has no alternative but to issue a formal apology and a firm assurance that such acts will never be conducted against their country again. But as this is just my point of view on the situation and I don't know much about politics, I cannot tell any one how to do their job. As you are the Governor of my home state I am asking you to speak not only for me but for the entire crew of the USS Pueblo (AGER-2). I want very much to return home to my loved ones. A full confession was made by the commanding officer and the entire crew. A formal letter of apology was drawn up by the officers and was signed by the entire crew. As I have stated all the facts as was told to me by my commanding officer, I hope you do all in your power for my safe return home and for the entire crew.

Respectfully

Howard Edward Bland

Enfn USN
USS Pueblo (AGER-2)

Letter from Petty Officer First Class James A. Shephard to President Johnson

Mr. Lyndon Johnson
Presidential Office
White House
Washington D.C.
U.S.A.

Dear President Johnson,

The despicable acts of aggression committed against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea by the U.S.S. Pueblo (AGER-2) have been fully and clearly brought to light. There is no longer any reason why you and your Administration continue to deny the Democratic People's Republic of Korea the sincere apology they are entitled to, and the assurance that such acts will not happen again. Sincere oral and written confessions and documentary evidence seized during our capture proves beyond any reasonable doubt the real mission of espionage that the U.S.S. Pueblo was performing. Intrusion into the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on several occasions have also been proven beyond any doubt.

The officers and crew of the U.S.S. Pueblo (AGER-2) have expressed their sincere apology to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and have asked that the Government of the D.P.R.K. forgive us and have us repatriated again. We can no longer hide the guilt and shame of our acts any more. I personally regret having been a participant in such wrong doings. I implore you for the sake of humanity to stop any further acts of this kind against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea who have shown such mercy on criminals such as us. By the law of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea we should have been shot, but instead our lives have been spared. Our fate lies in your hands as the leader of our country so please make a sincere apology and help us to be returned to our families so we can start a new and decent life.

Sincerely

James A. Shephard

Letter from Petty Officer Third Class Charles Henry Grandell Jr. to President of United States

President of the United States
White House
Washington D.C

Dear Mr. President;

I am writing this letter to you asking for your help so that I might be returned home to my wife, children, and loved ones as soon as possible.

As you already undoubtedly know the U.S.S. Pueblo (AGER-2) was captured in the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Upon capturing our ship they also confiscated some documents and papers, including maps, charts and our position log.

I did not believe at first anything told to me and denied all charges against us.

The Army of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea first let us listen to a confession by the captain which he admitted frankly that we were an espionage ship and not oceanographic research as thought by some of the crew.

To further give us proof as to the mission of the ship, they showed us the papers and maps along with the position log which showed us at least six occasions where we intruded the territorial waters of the D.P.R.K.

In view of these facts I can no longer deny the charges held against us, I admitted freely our crimes and confessed truthfully my participation in the crimes.

Because we all confessed our crimes and confessed that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has treated us fairly and with leniency.

All of us here would like to return to our homes in the United States and I am appealing to you for help.

Under the circumstances and since the D.P.R.K. has absolute proof showing that we had committed hostile acts of espionage against the D.P.R.K., I hope that the United States of America will admit our crimes and assure the Government of the D.P.R.K. that no further acts of aggression will be committed. I hope that the United States will take immediate measures for our return to our home, family, and loved ones as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

PO3 **Charles Henry Grandell Jr.**
U.S.N.

Letter from Communication Technician Charles R. Sterling to His Wife

Mrs. Charles R. Sterling
235 Goldenrod Avenue
Bridge Port, Connecticut
U.S.A.

My darling Genny,

It has been a month since our capture by the Navy of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Although, it seems like a year or more. I miss everyone very much. Every little thing that meant nothing to me previously, means so much more to me now. I can't wait until I will be allowed to go home to assume my duty and responsibilities of being a father and husband.

As you should know by now honey, the reason for my capture is quite obvious. I was involved in espionage, collecting various intelligence against the people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and while executing my duties, the ship intruded into the waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on various occasions. This act by my ship was a criminal act of a serious offense for which I can't find enough words to tell you how shamed I feel. I never gave it much thought before. But now that I have had concrete proof, such as, position reports, maps, and various other secret documents presented to me, I can readily see how terribly wrong my acts of espionage were. I hope you can see too, the seriousness of my crime and what a terrible wrongdoing it was against the people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Every passing day, I can see more clearly why such acts should never be committed.

I believe that before I can be allowed to return home, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea must receive a sincere confession of the crimes from the officers and crew of the Pueblo and an admission of guilt and sincere apology from the Government of the United States. A letter of confession has already been submitted to the people and Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea from the crew of the Pueblo. As long as the United States Government refuses to accept the truth, I will never be allowed to return to the country and home that I love so dearly.

Honey, I want you to do everything in your power to try and get me home. Some of the things you might do would be to write or contact in some way, our State Senate and our Congressmen to request them to persuade the Government of the United States to admit the terrible act we committed and to present the people and Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea with a sincere apology and promise that such an act as was committed by my ship, will never happen again. I personally can see no reason for the United States to commit such a hostile act against any country. I feel that any person with open eyes would feel the same. Another way, would be for you to talk to our friends and neighbors and inform them how wrong the Pueblo's mission really was, and how sincerely sorry the members of the ship's crew really feel.

I'm sure you know how much I miss you and Billy and how bad I want to come home. I live for the day when they will come in and tell me that my government has finally apologized and the crew of the U.S.S. Pueblo will be allowed to return to their families. Honey, if you had seen the documental proof and knew of the deep circumstances involved in this case, you would fully understand how wrong our actions were. Please believe me when I tell you that I know and realize the seriousness of our espionage and acts of intrusion, and I feel in my heart that they were wrong and I should be punished for them. The people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea realize this also, but, they have been very lenient and tolerant with us. I am at their mercy and should be put to death. But, still they are kind because they know that we are merely men in uniform acting on orders from our government. In view of all this darling, I am sure you can do nothing but agree with me when I say that a sincere apology and promise that such actions will never be repeated is due the people and the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, from our government, the Government of the United States. I know in my own heart that the Korean people could never commit such a hostile act against the United States. Knowing all of this I would not blame the Korean people if they did not forgive me for my crime against them.

There are a lot of things you can do to get me home honey, so as soon as you get this letter, I want you to start action for my return. I can't wait to get home to you, Billy, my parents, and our friends.

As I have said before, the people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea have been kind to me and my shipmates and have given us sufficient food and water along with clean beds. None of this can replace my family though, so please start action with the State of Connecticut so they can relay our wishes and feelings to the National Government. With all this proof, I am sure they can do nothing but see things our way and send immediately, the holy, sincere apology that the people and Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea so justly deserve.

I miss everything and everyone so very, very much and I am looking forward to the day I can return home and hold you in my arms and tell you all of this verbally.

I love and miss you terribly, so please do all you can to show the love to the Government and people of the United States. Inform them of my feelings and deep shame for my disgraceful crime against the people and Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Keep your beautiful chin in the air and never give up hope. I hope to be with you and Billy in the very near future. Just remember that I love you and have faith in God. Say hello to Pat and Dave, Gert and Art, and everyone else concerned. Again, I say I love and miss you with all my heart.

Love forever and a day,
Your loving husband,

Charles R. Sterling

P.S. I am waiting for your reply, so please hurry honey

Letter from Hospital Corpsman Herman Paul Baldridge to the United States Congressman Representing the City of San Diego, California

To the United States Congressman
Representing the City of San
Diego, California
Capitol Building
Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

Dear Sir,

I am on active duty in the United States Navy and my last duty station was the U.S.S. Pueblo (AGER-2) home-ported at Yokosuka, Japan. Before I proceed I would like to give a brief history of the Pueblo. The ship was commissioned in May 1967 at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Bremerton, Washington and shortly after redesignated from the AKL-44 to the AGER-2 (oceanographic electromagnetic research). Following a few weeks at San Diego, California for shake down training we departed for Yokosuka, Japan via Pearl Harbor, Hawaii on 6 November 1967. After several days in Pearl Harbor for repairs on the steering mechanism, the ship departed for Yokosuka, Japan on 18 November 1967 and arrived at fleet activities, Yokosuka, Japan on 1 December 1967. When I reported aboard the Pueblo on 2 June 1967 I was not told of the true mission of the ship, except that we would be conducting oceanographic research off the coast of Japan and that other details of the ship's mission would not be revealed to members of the crew, not holding a secret or top secret clearance, such as myself. The Pueblo remained in port at Yokosuka until 5 January 1968, when we departed for Sasebo, Japan, on our first operation. After two days at Sasebo we departed for our first operations area on 10 January 1968. The exact position of our operation area is not known by myself, but after several days it was common knowledge that we were operating off the coast of Korea, in the waters off the coast of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. On 23 January 1968 the Pueblo was approached by patrol craft of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, for intrusion into their territorial waters, and escorted to port. The officers and crew were then taken to our place of detention. Since arrival at the place of detention, the officers and crew have been treated in an excellent manner provided with three good meals a day, clean clothing, and clean warm rooms and beds. At no time have we been mistreated, or forced to do anything against our will. We all were taken to hear a confession by our commanding officer, commander L.M. Bucher, U.S. Navy. This confession outlined in detail the true mission of the Pueblo, which was to carry out espionage and gain intelligence information, about military activities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and that the ship had actually intruded into the territorial water, when it was captured. This is a crime of espionage against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, of which we are guilty, as per the confession of our commanding officer. Besides the crew was shown top secret and secret documents, dispatches, maps and charts taken from the Pueblo which was binding evidence and proof that Pueblo had engaged in planned espionage acts, and committed a grave crime against the laws of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. This was also proven at this time by plotting the ship's position from navigational logs, taken from the Pueblo, that the ship had without a doubt intruded into the territorial water of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, for the purpose of espionage. In the face of such evidence not a member of the crew could say we were not guilty of the crime of espionage as charged. The crew of the Pueblo were given the opportunity to hear for themselves confessions

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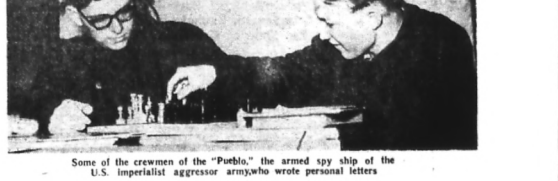

Some of the crewmen of the "Pueblo," the armed spy ship of the U.S. imperialist aggressor army, who wrote personal letters

(Continued from Page 14)

to the crime of espionage against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, by three more of the ship's officers, the executive officer, Lt. Murphy, the ship's research officer, Lt. S.R. Harris, and the ship's operations officer, Lt. (Jg) Schumacher. The above officers outlined in detail the ship's espionage activities and planned activities of this nature against other socialist countries, including the countries of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and the People's Republic of China. It was brought out at these confessions that the Pueblo had intruded into the territorial water of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, on several occasions from the commencement of the operation on 10 January 1968 until our capture on 23 January 1968, as close as 7.6 miles and 8.2 miles. It was admitted that these intrusions were effected so as to more accurately identify activity in the areas of interest, among these Mayaguez and Wonsan. Although myself and many other members of the crew were never informed of the ship's true mission, we nevertheless are also guilty of the crime of espionage, by the fact that we are crew members.

It is my belief and opinion that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea may treat our crimes with leniency, after the United States Government, whom we represent, openly submits a letter of apology to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and assures acts of this nature will cease against them in the future. Our future and the futures of our wives, children, and parents depend entirely on this action by the Administration in Washington. It is hoped that you sir, as an elected representative of the people can exert some influence upon our government to make this apology. It is my belief that only if this action is taken can the Democratic People's Republic of Korea be expected to treat our crimes with leniency, and allow us to continue our chosen lives, to three whom we have great responsibility, as husbands to our wives, and fathers of our children All the facts of the matter as I have presented them are true and correct to the best of my knowledge. In view of the tremendous amount of evidence presented and after hearing the confessions of our officers, I can only say we must guilty of the crime of espionage against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and hope that the United States Government will assume the responsibility for our acts. The entire ship's crew, officers and enlisted, has signed a similar letter of apology to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. So now, sir, the only course open to us is that what we, the Administration in Washington will follow with a letter of apology, since we represented the United States of America. It is sincerely requested that your office takes immediate action on this letter.

Very respectfully,

Herman Paul Baldridge

Hospital Corpsman First Class
USN 3452520

Letter from Gunner's Mate Kenneth Roy Wadley to His Wife

To Mrs. Kenneth R. Wadley
Dependents Mail Section
Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California
U.S.A. 96662

My dearest darling wife,

I do not know just how to write this letter to you but I will do the best that I can with it. First I will tell you that I am doing just fine and not to worry about me too much. I hope and pray that you are doing real well and have not been sick. I have lost a little weight and I have a slight cold but otherwise I am alright.

I am now going to tell you what happened to the ship so that you can write to the Congressman of the State of Oregon and your folks and tell them the truth about what happened. As you already know by now we were captured by the Navy of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on January 23, 1968. The reason that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea Navy captured us is because the captain took the ship into the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea instead of staying out in international waters where we should have been. At the time we were captured we were 7.6 miles off the coast of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. This is the closest that we had intruded on the whole operation. We intruded into the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea six (6) other times. We have been treated with the very best of human kindness that anyone could get for the crime that we committed against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Some of the treatment that we have had is a clean and warm room, clean bed, and fairly good food (it does not compare anyways near as good as your cooking though.) We have not had to say anything or forced to do anything against our will or the U.S. Government.

I heard the confessions made by the Commanding Officer, Executive Officer, Research Officer, and Operations Officer, and the rest of the crew confessed to the acts of espionage and spying after we had heard the captain's confession. At that time we could have been shot for this crime. But since the captain has confessed the Democratic People's Republic of Korea will be lenient on us. I think that we will be returned as soon as possible if the United States will send the people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea their sincere apology and promise that they will not commit these acts of espionage and spying against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea again. This is the only way that we can be returned to the United States and our families, wives, and children.

I have seen with my own eyes top secret documents, charts, and maps that were taken from the ship, and clearly proves to me that the USS Pueblo was on an espionage and spying mission. I have confessed to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea that I did not know that espionage and spying is the true mission of the Pueblo and that I am sorry that these activities were committed against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea by the USS Pueblo and the United States. After seeing and hearing all of these facts I do not see how the United States Government can deny the facts that the USS Pueblo was an espionage type ship and that this is what was being carried out by it. The United States probably will not come right out and admit that this is what we were doing even though there is 82 American service men sitting here waiting for them to send their apology and protest so that we might be returned.

I hope and pray that after you have read this letter, you will send it to your folks and ask them to write to the congressman from the State of Oregon, asking them to beg and plead with the President while the rest of the present Admin. to send their sincere apology and promise that espionage and spying will not be carried out by the United States again against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea so that we might be returned home as soon as possible. I only hope and pray that all of the congressmen will be able to have enough encouragement on the President and the rest of the present Admin. I wish that I know who the congressmen from the State of Oregon were and I would write to them myself.

I have written to the Senior Congressman and the congressman from the State of Mississippi about this grave matter and asked them to appeal to the President and the rest of the present Admin. I only hope and pray that all of these letters that the congressmen are going to get from the crew of the Pueblo will do some good and make the President see what a grave mistake he will be making if he does not send his sincere apology and promise as soon as possible.

I have made up my mind that I am going to get out of the navy if I am allowed to return to the United States as soon as this enlistment is up. I would rather give up the time that I have in already than to go through something like this again and I know that you and our families could not stand to go through something like this again.

There is not much that myself and the rest of the crew can do except wait and see what happens after these letters are mailed and the United States accepts the responsibility for these acts.

I got my clothes while we were in Pasebo and thought about sending them to you but I never did leave the ship. I hope that the rest of your things came to your address instead of to the ship. If they were sent to me they have probably been sent back to your folks by now. Honey, write a letter to my folks and let them know I am alright and ask them to write to the congressman from the State of Mississippi, I love you with all my heart and soul and for the rest of my life. May God keep you safe and healthy always.

All my love always,

Your loving husband
Kenneth Roy Wadley

P.S. I will await your reply.

Letter from Petty Officer Second Class Donald R. McClaren to U.S. Government

Government of the United States
Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

Dear Sir,

Since my capture aboard the USS Pueblo by the Naval Forces of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, I have had time to think of the espionage activities conducted by the USS Pueblo and violation of territorial waters against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

I personally destroyed some of the equipment and publications. When I was first captured I had denied the true mission of the USS Pueblo as ordered to do so by higher authorities but after being presented with evidence I could no longer deny the truth and admitted to the truthful mission of the USS Pueblo.

In the name of the American people and all the crew members of the USS Pueblo it is felt that an official apology is due to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and also an admittance of the espionage activities and the true mission of the USS Pueblo. I have personally seen the documented evidence such as navigational charts, position log books and ship's logs all indicating our several intrusions and violations of the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the purpose of conducting espionage activities. Also included in the evidence were secret and top secret documents indicating the mission of the USS Pueblo along with the confessions of the officers and crew members of the true mission of the USS Pueblo. Any denial of the true mission of the USS Pueblo would only prolong our return to our families, loved ones and friends, that is why it is of the utmost importance that an official apology along with the admittance of the espionage activities conducted by the USS Pueblo be submitted to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

I myself along with the rest of the crew members of the USS Pueblo want very much to be reunited with our families, wives and loved ones. I am sure it is, very hard on all the married men to be separated from their families, also the younger crew members who were going to be married and raise their own families. I wish to be returned to my family at the earliest possible date.

We have been receiving very good treatment. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea are feeding and clothing us and have given us warm and clean sleeping quarters. We are receiving good medical treatment and our wounded and sick are being treated in the hospital. We are being treated as regular prisoners of war while they could be treating us as common criminal for conducting such criminal acts against their country.

Another reassurance you can give the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is that there will be no further intrusions of territorial waters and espionage acts against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and to cease operation of all ships that are designed for such missions as the USS Pueblo was instructed to perform. Such acts committed against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and also against other countries of the world only shows that all countries are not willing to place trust in each other.

As stated before, the officers and members of the USS Pueblo personally confessed to their espionage and criminal acts committed by the USS Pueblo and have personally asked the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for their forgiveness. I am hoping very earnestly that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea will repatriate us as soon as a letter of apology is received from you, that is why I ask that there be no further delay on the part of the U.S. Government in submitting a letter of apology to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and that all efforts be made to obtain our release. I appeal to you with all my heart and as family men to reunite me with my family as soon as possible.

Sincerely

Donald R. McClaren

Petty Officer Second Class
United States Navy
Teletype, Operator
USS Pueblo (AGER-2)

Letter from Radar Receiver Operator Rodney Hartman Duke to His Parents

Mr. Frod E. Duke
RT 2 Box 165
Pelahotchie, Mississippi U.S.A. 39145

Dear mom and dad,

First of all I want to let you know that I am all right, and to tell you not to worry about me any more. You can tell the rest of the family and friends this for me.

I have been treated very good by the people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea since the capture of the USS Pueblo. I have been given a warm room to sleep in and warm clothes to wear. Also I have been given the necessary things to help keep my body clean and healthy. The people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea have been and are giving us proper medical care when we are sick. We receive three square meals a day and get plenty of rest and sleep. I thank the people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for the good treatment we have received since our capture.

I would like very much for you to write a letter to the Government of the United States or the State of Mississippi expressing the fact that the U.S.S. Pueblo was conducting an act of espionage in the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The officers and crew of the U.S.S. Pueblo have already confessed to the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and have sent a joint letter of apology to them signed by all members of the U.S.S. Pueblo.

I have seen documented proof and have heard confessions made by our officers that the U.S.S. Pueblo was conducting espionage activities in the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The documents I saw were charts, log books and other secret and top secret materials concerning the armed forces of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The log books and charts were dated from day to day giving the ship's position from time to time, and at the time of our capture we were in the territorial waters conducting espionage activities on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. It is felt by all members of the U.S.S. Pueblo that an official apology and that assurance be made to the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea by the United States Government.

Use these facts to write your letter to whomever you decide to write. You can also get other

(Continued on Page 16)

Some of the crewmen of the "Pueblo," the armed spy ship of the U.S. imperialist aggressor army, who wrote personal letters

(Continued from Page 15)

people to write to the government concerning the case of the U.S.S. Pueblo. We want to return home soon, and everything you can do will help us do so.

I do not know what is taking the United States so long to apologize to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea with all the facts that have been shown to prove that the U.S.S. Pueblo was conducting espionage activities in the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

I along with the rest of the crew have written letters to the President expressing our desire to return home. Our letters along with your letters should help get us home soon.

I have written this letter on my own free will. I am not forced to say anything I did not want to. Everything I have said is true and is with utmost sincerity.

I would like for you to answer this letter.

Your son

Rodney Hartman Duke

Letter from Radio Intercept Operator Robert James Hammond to Government of United States

To the Government of the United States
Washington, D.C.
U.S.A.

Dear sir:

This is a letter of appeal on behalf of the crew of the Pueblo and myself to be returned as soon as possible to the United States. Due to the situation, it is of my opinion that the attitude of the U.S. Government is of deep importance in determining when our release from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea will be possible. To be frank, when the order to commence emergency destruction was given, I destroyed any breakable equipment I could see with a sledge hammer and later ripped classified documents until the Pueblo was boarded. We destroyed all equipment of importance and as many documents as possible in order to conduct our activities. At first I denied my mission, but later admitted to what my job was and the mission of the Pueblo. This was in view of the fact that I was personally shown the documents concerning the mission and the espionage activities of the Pueblo that were captured by the Naval Forces of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. I have also personally been shown the secret and top secret documents pertaining to the acts of espionage committed by the Pueblo. I have also seen the ship's log books and daily summary reports on intelligence information gathered and charts showing the positions at which the Pueblo intruded several times into the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Therefore, the above information clearly shows that the Pueblo was engaged in overt espionage activities in the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. It is only fitting that the U.S. Government should apologize and give assurances to the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea that such acts of aggression will not occur again.

We were captured in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea territorial waters while carrying on espionage activities. Therefore we are not covered by the Red Cross or the Geneva Convention, nor are we prisoners of war, but spies and will be dealt with as such. However the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has thus far treated us in a humanitarian way. We have been given a warm room and bed to sleep in and three square meals a day. The wounded and the sick have been given medical treatment and we have been given the articles in which to keep ourselves clean and healthy, such as soap, toothbrush, and paste, and etc. However, such treatment has its limits and cannot be continued indefinitely if the U.S. Government continues to follow with a negative attitude.

Thus far, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has continued treating us in the above humanitarian manner. In my opinion this is in view of the facts that all of the officers and some of the crew have written and signed confessions. That everyone has admitted to the fact that the USS Pueblo was an espionage ship engaged in espionage activities into the territorial waters of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea at the time of our capture. That everyone has signed a joint letter of apology, written by the officers, to the people and the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for infringing on their privacy and being a threat to their security and national defence. Also, since we have sincerely asked for forgiveness and are frankly repenting for our crimes, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Kore... in my opinion, is willing to repatriate us if the U.S. Government will comply to the wishes of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Their only wish and desire is for the peaceful reunification of the entire Korean people. Therefore, if the Government of the United States will apologize, admit to the sponsorship of the Pueblo and its mission and assure the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea that such acts of aggression will not occur again, in this case can be solved in short time, enabling us to return home at the earliest possible date.

Very respectfully

Robert James Hammond
Sergeant Radio Intercept Operator
U.S. Marine Corps

Letter from Communications Technician Francis John Ginther to Government of United States

Government of the United States
Washington, D.C.
United States of America

We, the crew of the USS Pueblo, have been captured by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. We have been charged with committing the act of espionage. The secret and top secret documents captured and now in the possession of the Korean People's Army, reveal conclusively and undeniably that we are guilty of espionage. It was also pointed out through our navigational charts and records that we violated the territorial waters several times. These facts were also confirmed in the confessions made by the officers. The evidence was presented to the crew and fully reveals the truths of our mission. During our capture I, along with other men, conducted emergency destruction. I destroyed important equipment and some documents, however time was insufficient for us to destroy everything. At first I denied we were conducting espionage but after I saw the evidence I could no longer deny this fact. The denial by the United States of our acts of espionage could in no way be justified because of the evidence captured. Our letters are our only means in which we may communicate with you and ask for your help. By these letters we hope you will be convinced that there can be no denial to our acts because the evidence is concrete and proves that we of the USS Pueblo are guilty of espionage.

As we all know, espionage is a serious offence and we could be dealt with severely. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea has treated us humanely and leniently. We are being treated well in view of the crime that we committed. Of great importance to us is the fact that we may be able to return home. In order for us to realize our dreams of returning home we ask that the United States fulfill the following three items. First, we ask that the United States admit to our acts of espionage. Second, apologize to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Third, guarantee that these acts of espionage are'nt conducted against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in the future. These statements must be formal and official. These three statements are of vital importance and will play an extremely important part in our return to our homeland, our families, loved ones and friends. We can only ask that you understand our concern for our future and ninety, the futures of our families. These three statements will have a bearing on whether or not our future will be bright or dim. We ask you to understand that any thing you can do to help us is of vital importance to us.

I realize that this is by no means an easy task. It is hard to have to admit guilt but that isn't the most important thing. We of the U.S.S. Pueblo are a mere 82 in number, one member of our crew has died. This is just a very minute group of Americans compared to the millions of citizens in the United States. We are not concerned with our numbers. I'm sure we'd all give our lives for our country just as other countrymen would for their country, but our concern is for the hundreds of innocent people involved, namely our wives, children, parents, brothers, sisters, and other relatives that have been made suffer heart ache and sorrow as a result of this. Considering that approximately 50 percent of the crew were married and at least 60 children are innocently involved, then consider the parents and all other relatives, it is easy to see where hundreds of people are involved. I can only think of the thoughts in their minds and the lives have been changed, overnight, from a life of joy and happiness into a life of turmoil and fear of the unknown.

The dreams we have of raising our family now appear very dim. There is still a light of hope in our hearts that we may still carry out these dreams through the admission to our acts by the United States Government. I have never been subject to anything that has troubled my heart, as now. To realize that, I myself, have committed acts of espionage and through these acts, have brought sorrow and sadness not only to my family, but to the families of my friends and shipmates as well.

I think of the many children that are involved, many of which are very, very young and a few cases of children not yet born into the world. I think of our wives that know not what their future holds and the trouble and fear instilled in their hearts. I also think of our parents, many of which are elderly and suffering from ill health. How this has effected them is also unknown to us and is a heavy burden in our hearts and minds. I think of the suffering and sorrow inflicted into the hearts of the family that have lost their son as a result of this. I can only ask, humbly as we are powerless, that we not be made suffer these tribulations any longer. This depends upon you, the leaders of the United States Government. I feel that the admission to our acts is not as high a price to pay as we are now paying deep within our hearts.

As I see the men that I have worked, lived and had many good times with, I can notice the sadness that lies deep within their hearts. The men that I know as being happy and jovial now reflect, in their faces, the sadness and trouble that is contained deep within their hearts. I know their concern for their families is as great as the concern I feel for mine.

Being placed in a position as we are now in has made me realize many things. There are many thoughts entering my mind, as well as the minds of my shipmates, of things we should have said or done. I realize that these are in our past and cannot be changed. We look back with regret in some cases and joy in others but now I realize that these are'nt as important as that lies ahead in the future. I realize that my aim in life could be none other than to help people. In order to pursue this aim and desire, as well as the aims and desires of my shipmates, we must be given the second chance. This second chance rests with you, the leaders of our United States Government.

I have always been taught of our religious beliefs and regret deeply that, I haven't lived according to them. Again this is in the past and cannot be undone. As I look to the future, my aim is that of becoming a minister. I feel as though in this way I may be able to help others. I can only hope and pray for this second chance through your understanding and willingness to help us. The wrongs done by us cannot be undone. We must, therefore, look to you, our leaders and fellow Americans, to deliver us from this. I realize, that in many cases, the price we are now paying will not be enough and that we may still have to pay even more for our actions. I realize too, that many families will not be able to return to a normal happy life, but will be made suffer sadness and heart ache even further. This will always be a burden on our hearts. I ask for your complete understanding that we long for and love our families and don't want to cause them any more sadness than has been placed upon their hearts and minds already.

Our lives and futures, however they may look to us now depend upon you. Maybe through same experience of your own, you know exactly how we feel. Maybe you were given that second chance, which we now appeal to you for. These things I do not know, but ask that you might realize and understand how we feel.

I have often times asked myself why we can't live together in the world in the peace and harmony God intended for all mankind. It burdens my heart to realize that there is fighting and wars when there are unconquered foes of all mankind such as hunger, disease and poverty.

Now as we write these letters, a small flame is kindled within our hearts that you may free us from this so we may pursue our life's aim of living in peace and fellowship with our families and loved ones.

It is one of the basic principals of our forefathers of the United States that each man be entitled to "Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." That is what we, as Americans, ask you for now.

The truths revealed in the documents, charts, records, as well as the confessions of the officers and men to our acts of espionage, places our fate and the fate of our families directly upon you, our leaders. If you were only able to see the evidence compiled, I know there would be no other course of action for you to follow except to admit to these acts of espionage committed by us, the crew of the USS Pueblo.

Even though, as I said previously, it isn't easy to admit guilt, I feel that when the destiny of 82 men and hundreds of innocent people are involved, it isn't too much to ask.

A formal, joint letter of apology had been made by the officers. The crew was asked to write a letter to try and express our sincere apology to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for our committing acts of espionage against them. This in itself isn't sufficient. The final admission, apology and guarantee must come from you, the United States Government. To this, we plead with you for these statements, which are our only hope, along with the human understanding and sympathy of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

I ask now in closing that you will not further our stay here, but hasten the process which will deliver us unto our homeland, families and loved ones. I ask for forgiveness from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, you, the leaders of the Government of the United States of America, our families and all others that have been affected by our actions. In this letter I have been only able to express a small portion of the sadness, regret and sorrow that is, and will always be, a burden to me. My feelings of sorrow could not be put into words. I ask for you to try and realize how we must feel as we depend on you for help.

May God bless you all and may he forgive us and guide our lives.

Very respectfully,

Francis John Ginther
Communications Technician-1st Class
U.S.N. USS Pueblo
(AGER-2)

Some of the crewmen of the "Pueblo," the armed spy ship of the U.S. imperialist aggressor army, who wrote personal letters

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